

Egypt opens 2nd trial of conscripts

CAIRO (R) — Egypt's supreme state security court on Sunday opened a second trial of police conscripts charged with rioting in Cairo in February and rejected a defence plea for their release. The court adjourned the hearing to Oct. 5 to give the defence time to study details of the case. The three judges adjourned Saturday's trial of 104 conscripts to Oct. 4. A total of 1,236 people face trial after two days of rioting in which 107 people were killed and 700 injured. Damage was estimated at least \$150 million. The riots, Egypt's worst security crisis since the 1981 assassination of President Anwar Sadat, broke out on rumours of a one-year extension to the three-year curfew in the security police. The accused, in their late teens and early twenties, appeared frightened as they shuffled into an iron cage inside the courtroom on Sunday.

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Attas begins Kuwait visit

KUWAIT (AP) — Yemeni President Haider Abu Baker Al Attas, leading a top-level delegation, arrived Sunday in Kuwait at the invitation of the emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah. In a departure statement in Aden, Mr. Attas said his visit was aimed at "discussing brotherly issues between our countries and consolidating relations, as well as studying the situation confronting our region." He did not elaborate. This is the first visit by Mr. Attas to a member country of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council since he was named president after the 12-day bloody strife in Aden last January between rival factions of the South Yemeni Socialist Party. Ousted South Yemeni President Ali Nasser Mohammad had been engaged in opening up his country to the neighbouring GCC countries as well as moving towards unity with North Yemen under the aegis of the GCC.

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King cables good wishes to France

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein sent a cable of good wishes on Sunday to French President Francois Mitterrand congratulating him on the occasion of the French National Day. In his cable, the King wished President Mitterrand continuing good health and happiness and the people of France further progress and prosperity.

Rifai congratulates Kuwaiti premier

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai on Sunday sent a cable of congratulations to Kuwait Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah on the occasion of the announcement of the new Kuwaiti government. Mr. Rifai conveyed his best wishes to Sheikh Saad and the people and government of Kuwait and expressed his confidence that the Jordanian-Kuwaiti relations would continue to further develop in all fields to achieve interests of the two brotherly peoples and the Arab Nation (See story on page 2).

Cabinet forms team to U.N. session

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet has formed Jordan's delegation to the United Nations General Assembly meeting which is due to start on Sept. 15. The delegation will be led by Foreign Minister Taher Al Masi and will group Jordan's ambassador to the United Nations and several Foreign Ministry officials.

Israel 'accidentally' frees Arab suspect

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel "accidentally" set free a suspected guerrilla from prison last week when it expelled to Egypt four Arabs who had ended their sentences, prison officials said Sunday. The prisoner had finished serving a sentence for allegedly infiltrating into Israel and was awaiting trial on fresh charges over an attempted guerrilla attack. Prison officials said confusion over names led to his being expelled to Egypt along with three other Arabs who ended prison terms for illegally crossing into Israel from the Sinai desert.

Pakistani soldier killed in attack

ISLAMABAD (AP) — A Pakistani soldier was killed when Afghan army artillery bombarded a Pakistani border post in an unprovoked attack, the government charged Sunday. A Pakistani Foreign Ministry statement said Afghan forces fired three shells and 20 rockets Saturday at the post near Nangrahar. The Afghan charge of an Afghan Ministry on Sunday and given a strong warning for his government to discontinue such attacks, the ministry said.

King honours Egyptian minister of defence

Rifai, Sharif Zaid hold talks with Abu Ghazala

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein on Sunday received at the Al Nadwa Palace Egyptian Defence Minister Field Marshal Abdul Halim Abu Ghazala and conferred upon him the Military Order of Merit.

Field Marshal Abu Ghazala, who arrived here earlier on Sunday upon an invitation by Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, was also the guest of honour at a luncheon hosted by the King.

The luncheon was attended by Prime Minister and Defence Minister Zaid Rifai, Royal Court

Chief Marwan Al Qasem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Gen. Sharif Zaid, the assistant chief of staff for operations and training, and an Egyptian delegation accompanying Marshal Abu Ghazala as well as the Egyptian ambassador to Jordan, Mr. Ihab Wahbe.

Earlier, Mr. Rifai conferred with Marshal Abu Ghazala, who is also deputy prime minister and minister for military production. The meeting was attended by the assistant chief of staff for operations and training and Ambassador Wahbe.

Gen. Sharif Zaid, who received Marshal Abu Ghazala upon his arrival, held talks with the Egyptian minister at the Army Headquarters. During the meeting, Gen. Sharif Zaid briefed Marshal Abu Ghazala on the development of the Jordanian Armed Forces.

Marshal Abu Ghazala is also the commander-in-chief of the Egyptian Armed Forces.

Later on Sunday, Marshal Abu Ghazala and the delegation accompanying him visited the Al Hussein Medical Centre and the Martyrs Monument.

At the medical centre, he was received by Major-General Daoud Hanania, director of the Royal Medical Services, and senior doctors there. Marshal Abu Ghazala visited various sections of the medical centre and was briefed on the development of the centre and its functions.

At the Martyrs Monument, Marshal Abu Ghazala was received by the director of the Armed Forces moral guidance.

The Egyptian minister toured the monument and watered the tree of life. He was also presented with a token gift at the monument.

Arms race and summit figure high in Shevardnadze visit to U.K.

LONDON (R) — Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze was due in London on Sunday for a three-day visit during which British officials hope to ascertain the seriousness of the Soviet Union's recent arms control proposals.

British diplomatic sources said the visit, the first by a Soviet foreign minister since Andrei Gromyko came here 10 years ago, could also help pave the way for a summit meeting between U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

The Soviet Union is believed to be placing particular importance on Mr. Shevardnadze's trip in view of Britain's special relationship with Washington.

The Communist Party daily Pravda on Saturday urged Britain to revise its role in European and world affairs, saying its ties with the United States had led to a "dramatic escalation" of its military and political dependence on Washington.

Pravda added that the independent status of Britain's nuclear deterrent "does not deceive anyone." The Soviet Union has proposed arms control talks with Britain and France, separate from those it has with the United States in Geneva.

However, the sources said Mr. Shevardnadze would again be told that Britain would consider such talks only if there were major reductions in strategic arsenals of both superpowers and no significant increase in the Soviet Union's defence capability.

Mr. Shevardnadze, who had no official engagements on Sunday, will have his first round of talks with Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe on Monday at the British minister's country residence in southern England.

In addition to the superpower negotiations, they said Britain was looking for progress at chemical weapons talks at the Geneva conference on disarmament, the Stockholm conference on confidence and security building measures and disarmament in Europe and troop reduction talks in Vienna.

Citizens from Gaza and Beersheba praise Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — Citizens from the occupied Gaza Strip and representatives of tribes from Beersheba have expressed their gratitude and appreciation for the step which the government has taken allowing them to own lands and real estates in Jordan. They said the decision came at the right time to alleviate the suffering they have been undergoing since the Israeli occupation of their lands.

In interviews with the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, they praised the various facilities which the Jordanian government offers to Palestinians living in Jordan and the continuing support extended by Jordan to the Arab inhabitants of the occupied Arab territories.

They also expressed hope that following this decision the government will consider issuing passports to them.

The chairman of the Gaza refugee camp development committee, Hussein Mohammad

Abu Hussein, said the camp's residents greeted the government decision with great appreciation and happiness. He added that the step came to meet the citizens' need and to give them the feeling of stability and security. He also praised efforts being made to improve services in the camp.

Another figure interviewed by Petra was the head of the Gaza Camp Club, Sweileh Al Absi, who said the Gazans were pleased with the decision which, he said, made them equal in rights and duties with the people of the East and West Banks.

Mr. Hussein Mohammad Abu Sahool, a citizen from Beersheba, expressed thanks to the government's decision and appreciation for His Majesty King Hussein for his continuing efforts to regain the occupied lands and to alleviate the sufferings of the Arab citizens in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Compromise brings peace to Ulster but Catholics angered

BELFAST (R) — Northern Ireland appears to have emerged from the peak of its annual marching season with less violence than predicted, but the price for peace was anger among the Catholic minority.

Though there were a number of clashes in the staunchly Protestant town of Portadown over the weekend, elsewhere in the province some 100,000 members of the Protestant Orange order marched peacefully.

The Protestants, descendants of mainly Scottish settlers, were commemorating a 300-year-old victory by William of Orange over the Catholic King James II that ensured they could keep their land.

There had been concern that the Orange Day parades could explode into serious violence fuelled by Protestant resentment over last year's Anglo-Irish pact giving Dublin a consultative role in running the north.

Tension rose on Saturday after the authorities in Portadown banned marches from their traditional route through a small Catholic enclave, but subsided after police took a controversial decision to allow them through another Catholic area.

The decision was welcomed by Protestant leaders, who called off other potentially provocative parades, but was attacked by Catholic politicians.

The police, whose decision last year to bar marches from all Catholic parts of Portadown led to



His Majesty King Hussein on Sunday receives Egyptian Defence Minister Abdul Halim Abu Ghazala (left) at the Royal Palace in Amman. Also present are Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qasem (Petra photo)

Iraqi jets cripple Cypriot tanker and Iranian tugboat

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraqi jet fighters crippled a Cypriot tanker and an Iranian tugboat in the northeastern sector of the Gulf waters in an apparent tightening of its blockade on Iran's key Kharg Island oil terminal.

The Gulf shipping executives said that, based on information from their sources in Tehran, the Iranian assault partly damaged Al Amiq but failed to knock out the radar installations.

The term large maritime target is often used by Iraqi military to refer to bulk carriers and oil tankers they have been raiding near Kharg since they claimed its air and sea embargo around the terminal in February 1984.

The executives, who said they were in contact with unidentified agencies in Iran, confirmed the Cypriot-managed supertanker Achilles was ablaze as a result of an Iraqi raid Sunday morning some 120 kilometres southeast of Kharg.

An Iranian vessel, believed to be a large tugboat, was damaged in another raid Saturday night, at a point further south from the location where the Achilles was struck, they said.

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platform. Al Amiq is 40 kilometres south of the Iraqi coast.

Tehran Radio, said the claimed attack on Al Amiq was in retaliation for the Iraqi raids on the ships near Kharg.

Kharg accounts for 90 per cent of Iran's crude oil exports. The Iraqi blockade is designed to impede Iranian oil shipping and force the Tehran regime of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini to accept peace.

"There is no truth whatsoever to this falsehood which exposes the state of confusion besetting the Iranian regime," said the Iraqi navy and coastguard commander, Rear Admiral Abed Mohammad Abdullah, commenting on the Iranian version of fighting at Al Amiq.

The commander in statements to Baghdad Radio late Saturday reiterated that his forces had crushed an attempt by seaborne Iranian troops to raid Al Amiq.

Committee completes study on reinsurance company proposal

AMMAN (J.T.) — A government-appointed committee charged with preparing the ground for establishing a reinsurance company in Jordan has completed its discussions and recommended that the proposed company be set up with a JD 3 million capital and be registered as a public shareholding company with banks and local firms acquiring shares.

The committee also recommended that the company should acquire at least 25 per cent of local insurance companies' operations in Jordan and be given the right to refuse to take part in any insurance deal if it considers the terms and conditions of that deal unfavourable.

The committee recommended that an arbitration body be set up to settle disputes that might arise with regard to relations and dealings between insurance companies and the proposed reinsurance company. The preparatory committee also took a series of measures and passed recommendations designed to organise relations between the proposed company and the Jordanian insurance market.

The idea of establishing a reinsurance company was approved by the Cabinet on Nov. 1, 1985, and the minister of industry and trade was charged with the task of bringing the idea into being.

The minister immediately formed a technical committee to make a feasibility study and to prepare the ground.

The committee groups representatives of the local insurance companies, the Ministry of Industry and Trade, the Pension Fund, the Social Security Corporation and the Association of Banks in Jordan.

Botha orders students back to schools

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — President P.W. Botha issued a proclamation on Sunday saying the 1.7 million black students scheduled to start the new school year on Monday must apply to attend class and that officials can refuse them without giving reasons.

The proclamation, published in the government gazette, also said the decisions cannot be appealed through any process, apparently including the courts.

There had been speculation about whether black students would show up for class Monday, which has been declared a national "day of action," by the 500,000-member Congress of South African Trade Unions.

The form of protest — involving demands for release of union leaders detained under the government's emergency decree — was left up to individual unions.

The government said the president's emergency regulation orders were issued to assist the department of education and the training in restoring order at the nation's 7,000 black schools.

They have been the scene of protests, violence and boycotts during the past few years. The government has been accused of deliberately setting up an inferior education system for blacks.

The opening of black schools already has been delayed two weeks to allow the education department to finalise a security plan, which includes identification cards for all students and a reported plan to involve teachers in the security at the fenced schools.

The president's new orders give the department of education officials the power to overrule school principals in assigning students to classes on the basis of their "previous proven scholastic achievement."

Many students have missed months of classes during the past several years because of the turmoil of anti-apartheid protests. Some men and women in their 20s are still called "students" because they have not completed their classes or taken their graduation exams.

An official of an alternative black education programme in Johannesburg said on Sunday that through word of mouth in the black communities, large numbers of students about 10 years old would not be attending the first scheduled day of classes on Monday.

He said it was the same situation in Pretoria, the administrative capital 50 kilometres to the north: but that children ages six to 10 probably would be sent to school.

Thatcher rejects criticism of her stand against sanctions, page 8

U.S. experts instal equipment at Soviet nuclear testing site

MOSCOW (AP) — U.S. scientists have installed the first Western monitoring station at a Soviet nuclear test site, putting about a dozen seismic devices in rugged hill country of remote Kazakhstan, a member of the group said Sunday.

Thomas Cochran, a scientist with the Washington-based National Resources Defence Council (NRDC), said in an interview that his group received strong Soviet support for the project, which he hopes will show it is possible to set up stations for monitoring a nuclear test ban.

But he said the NRDC scientists have no assurance they would be allowed to monitor an actual nuclear test, should the Soviets resume their testing programme after Soviet leader Mikhail S.

UAE backs call for 5-nation talks on Mideast

ABU DHABI (Agencies) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) expressed support on Sunday for a French-backed Soviet proposal to hold an international conference on the Middle East attended by the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council.

Fawzi Abdul Latif Al Sharkal, deputy director of international organisations in the UAE Foreign Ministry, told the Emirates News Agency (WAM): "The Emirates have before supported an international conference held in Geneva on the Palestinian question, and the proposal of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev is in the same direction."

Mr. Gorbachev suggested the conference in a meeting with French President Francois Mitterrand in Moscow last week. The United States and Britain have rejected the proposal. France supports the proposal and China has not yet announced its position. Israel has ruled out its acceptance of such a conference.

Mr. Sarkal said after talks with China's ambassador to the UAE: "What matters is safeguarding Arab rights in any solution of the Middle East problem." The UAE is a temporary Security Council member.

In Amman, His Majesty King Hussein on Saturday welcomed the Soviet proposal and said "it advocates what we have been trying to achieve... I am encouraged and I hope to see it take place."

The proposal calls for a preliminary meeting of the United States, the Soviet Union, France, Britain and China to help prepare for an international conference on the Middle East and draw up a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The Jordan Times' new telephone numbers: 667171-6 and 670141-4

New Kuwaiti cabinet cites security, economic priorities

KUWAIT (AP) — Kuwait's Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah launched his 22-member cabinet on Sunday with pledges of a determined bid to stand fast against terrorism and to remedy the Gulf state's ailing economy.

The cabinet was formed Saturday and sworn in by the Emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah earlier Sunday.

"We will not surrender to threats or blackmail and we will stick to the foreign and internal policies we have been pursuing because we consider them conducive to the fulfillment of our interests at present and in the future," Sheikh Saad said at the cabinet's inaugural session.

His government, he said, will give "top priority to the security issue, and to dealing with the saboteurs who tried, by carrying out explosions in Kuwait over the past period, to undermine the country's security and spread fear and concern among citizens."

Sheikh Saad was referring to the spate of terrorist acts carried out in the Gulf state since the December 1983 truck bombing of the U.S. and French embassies and Kuwaiti civilian targets. These acts included an attempt on the life of the Emir in May 1985, and the latest was four synchronised explosions at the Al Ahmadi Oil Centre last month.

Lebanon's underground Islamic Jihad has often issued threats against Kuwait for failing to release 17 mainly Muslim Shi'ites convicted in the December 1983 bombing attacks. Kuwait's leadership has adamantly refused

to release the prisoners.

Turning to the wider threat to Kuwait and the rest of the Gulf region from the spillovers of the five-year-old Iran-Iraq war, Sheikh Saad expressed confidence that the new government would live up to the "big responsibilities awaiting it during these critical circumstances besetting the region in general and Kuwait in particular."

Kuwait is about 160 kilometres from the Iran-Iraq battlefield. Iran's occupation of Iraq's Fao peninsula in February of this year brought the war only 24 kilometres north east of Kuwait's Bubiya Island.

Sheikh Saad said his government's second main task will be to "reactivate the national economy" and handle problems that accumulated since the 1982 stock market crash under the impact of \$94 billion worth of post-dated bad checks.

Aside from the crash, Kuwait like the rest of the Gulf region, has been suffering from a general recession due to the slump in world oil prices and the continuation of the Iran-Iraq war.

Sheikh Saad said his Finance Minister Jassem Al Khorafi, in cooperation with a number of experts, had finalised formulas and visualisations for remedying the economic situation and the

proposed solutions would be considered by the cabinet.

he did not elaborate, but earlier reports said that such solutions, which drew opposition from the 50-member National Assembly that was dissolved earlier this month by the Emir, envisaged the pumping of up to 600 million dinars (\$2 billion) of public money to the local banks and investment companies.

Kuwait's private sector is suffering from had debts amounting to about \$15 billion.

As Sheikh Saad made fresh promises of resolving the economic problems, stock market dealers reported hikes in prices of shares, with new dealers entering the market, and businessmen cutting short vacations abroad to return to capitalise on the new market boom. Some have reportedly recalled home money they had invested abroad.

The new cabinet was formed to succeed Sheikh Saad's cabinet which resigned after the Emir dissolved parliament, suspended some articles of the constitution and amended some articles of the press law on July 3 for "lack of cooperation between the executive and legislative bodies."

The finance minister and other key ministers in charge of foreign affairs, defence, interior and oil were retained in the new cabinet. The only dropout was Education Minister Hassan Al Ibrahim, who had roused the ire of religious politicians when he announced an impromptu plan to secularise and modernise school curricula.

Seven new ministries were created, mainly by splitting previous portfolios.

Spain pardons 2 jailed Lebanese Shi'ites

MADRID (Agencies) — Spain's Socialist government Sunday released two Lebanese Shi'ites jailed for 23 years for the attempted murder of a Libyan embassy official in Madrid.

Mohammad Rahal, 22, and Mustapha Khalil, 24, were released shortly after midnight and taken to Madrid's Barajas Airport, where officials said they would probably be flown to Beirut.

The officials said their departure could be delayed by as much as two days, to await a direct flight to Beirut and processing of legal papers.

The two were pardoned Saturday night for the September 1984 shooting of Mohammad Idrees, who was wounded in both arms. They said the attack was to avenge the disappearance of a Lebanese Shi'ite leader, for which they held Libya responsible.

The Shi'ite guerrilla Black Flags Organisation abducted three Spanish embassy officials in Beirut last January to demand the release of the two Shi'ites being held in Madrid.

The three officials were released 32 days later after Spain pledged to seek a legal solution to the captors' demands.

An Interior Ministry spokesman said at the time the two Shi'ites could be expelled from Spain, but that such a move would require prior approval by the Justice Ministry.

During their trial Khalil and Rahal said they had not intended to kill Idrees but wanted to damage his car in revenge for the disappearance of Imam Moussa Sadr, Lebanon's Shi'ite spiritual leader.

Imam Sadr vanished in 1978 after flying from Italy to Libya. Shi'ite militants accuse the Libyan government of kidnapping and killing him. Libya has denied the charge and claimed Imam Sadr had returned to Rome.

Former director of S. Yemeni agency in Sanaa

SANAA (R) — The former director of the Aden News Agency (ANA), Najih Mohammad Ibrahim, has arrived in Sanaa along with 70 army officers and civilians opposed to the South Yemeni government, informed sources have said.

Last week, the South Yemeni cabinet replaced Mr. Ibrahim by Mohammad Ahmad Al Hobashi, but gave no reason for the move.

The sources said Mr. Ibrahim left Aden two days ago.

Several thousand Yemenis opposed to Marxist rule in South Yemen or who support ex-President Ali Nasser Mohammad, ousted in factional fighting in January, have fled to North Yemen.

U.S. jets reportedly flying over Gulf of Sirte

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The Washington Post said Sunday the U.S. Navy has been carrying out flight operations from aircraft carriers off the coast of Libya for several weeks, including flights over the Gulf of Sirte.

The Post, quoting Pentagon official sources, said fighters from the carrier Forrestal had been flying over the gulf but had not crossed the "line of death" across its lower part, which Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi said could lead to war.

The Pentagon had no comment on the report.

The Post said the Forrestal had left the area but the carrier America was continuing the U.S. presence there.

It said the navy planes were flying in a non-provocative manner along well-defined lines parallel to the coast rather than making sudden feinting movements towards Libya.

On April 15, the United States, claiming proof of Libyan involvement in attacks in Europe, bombed Tripoli and Benghazi.

Libya claims territorial rights to all waters in the Gulf of Sirte. This is challenged by the United States, which asserts freedom to navigate

there.

Libya begins exercises

Meanwhile Libya's official news agency JANA said on Sunday that "all targets were hit" in a missile-firing exercise whose first phase began on Saturday.

The 14-word dispatch did not say what or where the targets were or what kind of missiles were fired.

On Friday, JANA said that Libya will launch missiles in "large-scale" exercises in the Gulf of Sirte beginning on Sunday involving "mobile and fixed targets."

Sunday's dispatch did not explain why it first said the exercises would begin on Sunday and two days later said they began on Saturday.

In Rome an Italian newspaper reported Saturday that the Italian Navy is in a state of alert as Libya begins manoeuvres in the Gulf of Sirte involving missiles.

The daily Il Giornale of Milan said the navy was keeping an eye open for the exercises, which Libyan official media described as "large-scale."

The report gave no other details

and Italian defence officials were not available for comment Saturday.

Relations between Italy and Libya have deteriorated sharply since Libya responded to the April 15 bombing by American warplanes by firing two missiles at the Italian island of Lampedusa.

Libya has since threatened to launch another attack on the Mediterranean island if Italy does not close a U.S. Coast Guard station there.

The attack spurred then-premier Bettino Craxi to vow to defend Italy "by every means possible" and to step up security at military installations and train stations. Libya and Italy subsequently expelled roughly half of the other's diplomatic corps.

Also on Saturday, JANA claimed that there had been "unusual movements" by U.S. forces in the Mediterranean and accused America of "playing with fire."

Quoting what it described as "informed diplomatic sources," the agency, monitored in Rome, said U.S. AWAC early warning aircraft had been moved from

West Germany to the Mediterranean and that new nuclear missiles had been moved to the U.S. base in Comiso, Sicily.

"America's recent escalation of its unjustified presence in the Mediterranean confirms Washington's hostile intentions toward the nations of the region," JANA said, quoting its unnamed "political editor."

The Libyan military exercises involving missiles would be the first since the April 15 U.S. attack. The two sides have clashed before in the disputed Gulf of Sirte.

On Saturday, Defence Minister Giovanni Spadolini, addressing a military group, said Italy did not take "lightly" the news of the Libyan manoeuvres, which JANA and Libyan Radio said would end Tuesday.

"Italy has very clear ideas on the limits of territorial waters and also on the boundaries between terrorism and aggression," Mr. Spadolini said.

"This probably is the latest in a war of nerves, designed to intimidate Europe," he added. "We will not give in to blackmail. We want only to protect Italian territory, particularly the islands."

Cheysson meets Mubarak

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt (AP) — Claude Cheysson, the European Community's commissioner for North-South relations, met Sunday with President Hosni Mubarak and discussed EC economic aid to Egypt.

Following the 50-minute meeting which was held at Ras El Teen Presidential Palace in the Mediterranean resort, Mr. Cheysson told reporters the EC was interested in helping Egypt overcome its economic problems.

Mr. Cheysson said that he would relay to EC members in their meeting on July 21 President Mubarak's views on the severe economic problems which developing countries face, especially those like Egypt which have been affected by the collapse of the world oil market prices.

He said Europe was interested in the stability of Egypt and the Middle East.

Foreign Minister Esmail Abdul Meguid who also attended the meeting commented Egyptian-European relations and said Egypt appreciated the EC's help.

Harish to order police probe into Shin Bet affair

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel's attorney general intends to order a police investigation into the killing by security service agents of two captured Palestinians bus hijackers and a subsequent cover-up, a government official said Sunday.

Attorney General Yosef Harish wrote to Prime Minister Shimon Peres that he would order the investigation, in the 22-member cabinet did not decide Sunday to appoint a state commission of inquiry into the killing and cover-up, said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Avraham Shalom, director of the Shin Bet security service has been accused by subordinates of having ordered the killing of the Palestinians in April 1984 and fabricating evidence to two previous inquiries into the deaths.

He said in a letter asking for a presidential pardon that he acted with the permission and authority of then-premier Yitzhak Shamir, leader of the right-wing Likud bloc.

Shamir, now foreign minister in a coalition government, has denied giving Shalom any order, although he said in a newspaper interview last week that he discussed the possibility of killing

captured terrorists with the security chief. He opposes any investigation because he says it would reveal vital security secrets.

Shalom's letter was read out during a supreme court hearing on appeals for further investigation, especially of the political echelon's role, and a request to declare illegal the pardoning of Harish and three other high-ranking Shin Bet officials.

Peres' cabinet was expected to reject the demands by several members of his Labour Party to hold the state inquiry. Shamir's Likud bloc, which controls 12 cabinet votes, is united in opposition to any inquiry. One member aligned with Labour reportedly opposes it and Religious Affairs Minister Yosef Burg is expected to abstain.

But Harish told Peres in the letter that if the government rejects a commission of inquiry, he will order the police to go ahead with the investigation ordered in May by his predecessor Yitzhak Zamir.

The daily Yediot Ahronot said Harish explained to Peres that he was unwilling to try to justify to the supreme court that he did not investigate should take place.

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JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 771111	23:00 News Summary 23:05 Evening Show Cont. 24:00 Close down
PROGRAMME ONE	BBC WORLD SERVICE 639, 720, 1323 KHz
17:00 Koma	07:00 Newsweek 07:30 For Whom the Bell Tolls 07:45 Reflections 07:50 Waveguide 08:00 World News 08:09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
17:30 Scientific programme	08:30 Letterbox 08:45 Recording of the Week 09:00 Newsweek 09:30 A Word in Edgeways 10:30 Sportsweek 10:30 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
18:00 Bill Crosby	10:30 Sarah and Company 11:00 World News 11:09 Reflections 12:15 To Whom the Bell Tolls 12:30 Anything Goes
19:00 Local programme	12:00 World News 12:09 British Press Review 12:15 Good Books 12:30 Financial News 12:45 People's Choice 13:00 News Summary: A Word in Edgeways 13:15 Sportsweek 13:30 Hollywood's Oscar Nights 14:00 World News 14:09 News About Britain 14:15 Jewish Walla 14:30 Album Time 15:00 Radio Newsworld 15:15 Quote, Unquote
19:30 Programme review	15:45 Sports Round-up 16:00 World News 16:09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 16:30 Ray Moore Talks To...
19:45 News programme	17:00 News Summary: Outlook 17:45 The Man on the Telephone 18:00 Radio Newsworld 18:15 A Word in Edgeways 18:45 What's New 19:00 World News 19:09 Commentary 19:15 Putting Politics in Its Place 19:30 Tenor and Baritone 19:45 The World Today 20:00 World News 20:09 Book Choice 20:15 My Music 20:45 Sports Round-up 21:00 Newsweek 21:30 The Mystery of the Blue Train 22:00 News Summary: Outlook 22:45 Sportsweek 23:00 World News 23:09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 23:30 Sports International 24:00 News Summary
20:00 News in Arabic	
21:00 Arabic Series	
22:00 Local comedy	
23:00 News summary in Arabic	
23:10 Varieties programme	
PROGRAMME TWO	
18:00 Espionage et mis-tout	
19:00 News in French	
19:15 Magazine Sportif	
19:30 News in Hebrew	
19:45 Towards 2000	
20:00 News in Arabic	
20:30 Growing Pains	
21:00 Review of Jewish Festival activities	
21:10 Moonlighting	
22:00 News in English	
22:30 Crown Court	
RADIO JORDAN 855 KHz. AM & 94 MHz. FM & partly on 95.00 KHz. SW Tel: 77111-14	
07:00 Light Music	
07:30 Newsweek	
08:30 Morning Show	
10:30 News Summary	
11:00 Pop Session	
11:30 Yes Minister	
12:00 News Summary	
12:05 Pop Session Cont.	
13:00 News Summary	
13:05 Pop Session Cont.	
14:00 News Bulletin	
14:10 Instrumentals	
14:15 Over a Cup of Tea	
15:00 Concert Hour	
16:00 News Summary	
16:30 Instrumentals	
17:00 Talking About Music	
17:30 Pop Session	
18:00 News Summary	
18:30 Sports Round-up	
19:00 Newsweek	
19:30 Date with a Star	
20:00 Evening Show	
21:00 News Summary	
21:30 Evening Show Cont.	
22:00 News Summary	
22:05 Evening Show Cont.	

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS	EXHIBITIONS	SERVICE CLUBS
	"A French exhibition entitled 'La Mode, les modes, la rue' at the French Cultural Centre (until July 24).	Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m.
		Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the American Hotel, 7.30 p.m.
		Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m.
		Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel, 2.00 p.m.
		Royal Automobile Club. Jabel Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261, 815410.
FEATURE FILM	JERASH FESTIVAL	CHURCHES
"Close Encounters of the Third Kind" at 7.00 p.m. at the American Centre.	South Theatre 7:00-8:30 p.m. Spanish Flamenco Group "Spain" 9:30-11:30 p.m. The D.C. Contemporary Dance theatre "U.S.A." Artimes 7:00-8:30 p.m. Poetry 9:00-10:00 p.m. Qatwa Murra Play "Jordan" Sight and Sound 8:00-9:00 p.m. Jabel Al Sabab Play "Jordan" Forum 6:30-7:15 p.m. The Folklore troupe 8:00-9:00 Theatre Abath "France"	St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Amman, Tel. 624590. Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabel Luwiddah, Tel. 637440. De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Hamein, Tel. 661757. Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdal, Tel. 623541. Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabel Amman, Tel. 678906. American Catholic Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 771331. Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 775261. St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, Tel. 771751. Amman International Church (inter-denominational) meets at Southern Baptist School in Shamsiyein, Tel. 677534. Evangelical Lutheran Church, Jabel Amman, 6th Circle, (Rev. N. Smir), Tel. 811295. Rainbow Congregation (International, inter-denominational) meets in the Church of the Redeemer, Jabel Amman, Tel. 605974.
TODAY'S EVENTS	CULTURAL CENTRES	PRAYER TIMES
	Royal Cultural Centre .. tel. 6610267 American Centre 644371 American Centre Library 641520 British Council 6361478 French Cultural Centre 637009 Goethe Institute 611993 Soviet Cultural Centre 644203 Spanish Cultural Centre 624049 Turkish Cultural Centre 639777 Haya Arts Centre 665195 Hussein Youth City 667181/6 Y.W.C.A. 641793 Y.W.M.C.A. 664251 Amman Municipal Library 637111 University of Jordan Library 843555	06:59 Fajr 05:39 (Sunrise) Duha 12:41 Dhuhur 16:22 'Asr 19:46 Maghreb 21:22 'Isha
MUSEUMS	PRAYER TIMES	
Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also costumes from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.		

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	MARITIME TRAFFIC	MONEY EXCHANGE
This information is supplied by the Alia International Airport tel. (08) 53200-2, where it should always be verified.	Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port: — Corona — Alaudun Guber Amin Kassar and Sons Company, at your service, tel. 603703/15.	Monday rate Local currency rates in J.S. Belgian franc 77/1 77.8 Dutch guilder 140/9 143.3 French franc 49/4 49.9 Italian lire 23/1 23.6 Japanese yen (for 100) 215/1 217.6 Swedish crown 49 49.4 Swiss franc 192/8 195.9 U.K. sterling pound 92/1 92.8 U.S. dollar 348/7 351.4 W. German mark 158/6 160.4
ARRIVALS	DEPARTURES	WEATHER
07:35 Cairo (MS) 09:15 Agaba (RJ) 09:25 Sana'a (LH) 10:00 Kuwait (LH) 10:30 Muscat, Bahrain (RJ) 11:00 Damascus (RJ) 11:30 Cairo, Agaba (RJ) 11:35 Baghdad (IA) 14:20 Muscat, Bahrain (RJ) 14:35 Kuwait (RJ) 15:30 Ankara (TK) 16:10 Jeddah, Medina (SV) 17:55 Larnaca (RJ) 18:00 Cairo (RJ) 18:40 Bucharest (RJ) (add.) 18:50 New York, Vienna (RJ) 19:10 Bucharest (RJ) 19:15 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ) 19:25 Beirut (MEA) 19:45 Baghdad (RJ) 01:25 Baghdad (RJ)	07:00 Agaba (RJ) 08:20 Cairo (MS) 10:40 Frankfurt (LH) 11:05 Bucharest (RJ) (add.) 12:05 Amsterdam (RJ) 12:45 Bucharest (RJ) 12:45 Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ) 13:00 Agaba, Cairo (RJ) 13:15 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ) 13:30 Paris (RJ) 14:00 Baghdad (IA) 14:00 Larnaca (RJ) 15:35 Kuwait (RJ) 15:45 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GF) 16:30 Ankara (TK) 17:40 Medina, Jeddah (SV) 20:30 Kuwait (RJ) 21:00 Baghdad (RJ) 21:05 Jeddah (RJ) 21:30 Bahrain, Doha (RJ) 21:40 Dhahran (RJ) 22:15 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ) 22:15 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ) 02:30 Cairo (RJ)	Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology. It will be fair, with northwesterly moderate winds. In Agaba, winds will be northerly moderate and calm sea. Amman 18/20 Agaba 22/27 Dahesh 17/26 Jordan Valley 23/26 Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 29.3, Agaba 38. Humidity readings: Amman 39 per cent, Agaba 24 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES	NIGHT DUTY	GENERAL
Amman governorate 891228 Amman civil defence 198, 199 Civil Defence Unit 271293, 271311 Civil Defence Quesneville 770733 Civil Defence Beirut Area 77306 Ambulance 193, 775111 Amman downtown fire brigade 198 First aid 630341 Blood bank 778035 Civil Defence rescue 661111 Fire headquarters 624026 Police station 192, 621111, 637777 Police headquarters 639141 Traffic police 896390/1 Electric Power Co. 636381/4, 624881 Municipal water complaints 771258 Queen Alia Int. Airport (08) 53330/60	AMMAN: Dr. George Sabouni 894546 Dr. Tawfik Qasbi 674182 Fayer pharmacy 661627 Mogammeh pharmacy 672367 University pharmacy 644534 TAXIS: Khaldi taxi 623715 Tamer taxi 666417 Sport taxi 665279 Tadous taxi 644560 Wadiah taxi 812434 Al Qudri taxi 847572 IBED: Dr. Mahmoud Khatib (-) Layth pharmacy (-) Fouad pharmacy (-) ZABQA: Dr. Mounir Andeh 987100 Rami pharmacy (-) Tawfik pharmacy (-)	Jordan Television 77311/19 Radio Jordan 77411/19 Ministry of Tourism 642311 Hotel complaints 666412 Ride complaints 661176 Telephone information 12 Jordan and Middle East calls 10 Overseas calls 17 Repair service 11
HOSPITALS	MARKET PRICES	
Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32 Khaldi Maternity, J. Amn. 644281/6 A. Elch. Maternity, J. Amn. 642441/2 Jabel Amman Maternity 642362 Malina, J. Amman 636140 Palestine, Shamsiyein 664371/4 Shamsiyein Hospital 669131 University Hospital 843845/65 Al-Musaber Hospital 667227/9 The Islamic Abdal 666127/37 Al-Abul, Abdal 664164/6 Jeddah, Al-Madajrah 771012/3 Al-Basrah, J. Ashrafieh 775112/6 Army, Madra 891611/15 Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50 Amal Hospital 674135	Upper/lower price in J.S. per kg. Apple (local) 330/300 Apple (green) 430/400 Apple (American & French) 430/380 Apples 320/280 Banana 300/260 Banana (Mikammar) 230/220 Beans 320/280 Cabbage 80/50 Cauliflower 160/120 Cauliflower 140/100 Cucumber 160/120 Eggplant (large) 130/100 Eggplant (small) 70/50 Garlic 700/650 Grapes 380/300 Grapefruit 180/150 Lemon 260/200 Lentice (per one) 140/100 Marrow 200/150 Mellow 80/50 Melon (Sweet) 200/140 Onion (dry) 80/50 Okra 420/360 Orange (local and Valencia) 180/120 Parsley 70/50 Peas 240/200 Pepper (sweet) 240/200 Pepper (hot) 240/200 Pumpkin 260/200 Pumpkin 180/120 Pumpkin 120/80 Tomatoes 350/300 Watermelon 100/60	

Jordan Times

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New chapter in Tunisia

THE unexpected fall of Tunisia's strongman and heir apparent, Premier Mohammad Mzali, marks a new chapter in the continuing struggle among the ranks of Tunisia's ruling Socialist Destourian Party. It also signals the start of an uncertain period in that country's uneasy political life. Mzali's fall from grace came at a very peculiar time following last month's show of party unity during the party's congress meetings when he was confirmed as first in line to succeed ailing Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba. During that congress, President Bourguiba personally renewed his faith in Mr. Mzali thus enabling him to be re-elected as the party's secretary-general and to remain the country's prime minister.

To many observers, that event signalled the end of a long period of speculation regarding the future political leader of the country. Bourguiba's vote of confidence in his hand-picked heir came to silence once and for all the rumours that talked of new possible candidates for Mzali's post. Heresy was not totally to blame for those rumours because Mr. Bourguiba had personally ordered changes in the cabinet and other senior government positions which observers said weakened the prime minister's power base. A case in point was the sweeping changes in the senior administrative positions in the government-run media and the recent abolition of a ministerial position previously held by the premier's wife.

Today, as the battle for succession flares, we cannot but feel sad that a statesman of Mr. Mzali's calibre will be absent from this Arab country's political scene. Even his political adversaries concede that Mr. Mzali had represented a bright side of the ruling Socialist Destourian Party. He has been lauded for his liberal and pragmatic stands which permitted political life to flourish in a country beset by many internal economic and social troubles. However, Mr. Mzali's inability to deal with these problems effectively may have caused his downfall. Among these problems we cite the dwindling oil revenues, stalled economic activity and high unemployment made worse by the forced return of many workers from Libya. The appointment of Rachid Sfar, an economist and a fiscal expert, shows clearly that President Bourguiba is putting the emphasis on the economy. His new trouble-shooter does not, however, have the much-needed political experience, an important asset of his predecessor. Mr. Sfar is expected not only to revive Tunisia's stagnant economy but also to win the support of his party's different factions and then win the support of the country's other political parties. Last, but not least important, Sfar must reach an understanding with the country's powerful trade union, a formidable task indeed for any politician.

As fellow Arabs and observers, we wish the new Tunisian premier success in his difficult mandate. Tunisia's busy marketplace of political, social and economic problems does not promise any easy rides. It is true. But our sister country deserves from us every support and encouragement.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Rai: King outlines Jordan's policy

KING Hussein has once again reiterated Jordan's basic policies, towards the Palestine problem and Arab countries. In a press conference, the King was quite open and frank about the priorities of Jordan's policy and said that on top of the list of priorities come the endeavours to help the Palestinian people under Israeli rule. Nothing whatsoever can stop Jordan from pursuing efforts to strengthen the steadfastness of the Palestinian people and help them regain their land and rights and nothing will prevent Jordan from resisting enemy plans to uproot the Palestinians from their homeland. King Hussein stressed all this and said that Jordan takes pride in the heroic steadfastness of the Palestinians. The King referred to Jordan's mediation efforts to end inter-Arab differences and said that he looks forward to a fruitful result. Jordan, he said, hopes to consolidate solidarity among Arab countries so that they can together confront the challenges and the common enemies and protect their interests. King Hussein supported a Franco-Soviet call for convening an international conference to find a just settlement for the Middle East question, and said that it is the most effective means for achieving peace.

Al Dustour: Commitment to Palestinians

KING Hussein told a press conference at Al Nadwa Palace Saturday that Jordan was keen on shouldering its responsibilities towards the Arab people under Israeli rule and said no effort will be spared in defending the Arab land and saving the Arab people from occupation. He said Jordan's priority is to help strengthen the steadfastness of the Arab people and help the Palestinians resist all attempts aimed at uprooting them from their homeland. Jordan, he stressed, is committed to helping the Arab people of Palestine and will continue to be faithful to Arab causes regardless of all obstacles. The King also said Jordan believes in solidarity among Arab countries as a means of fending off all threats and dangers and therefore has been pursuing efforts to achieve that solidarity by bridging the gap between Syria and Iraq and laying down the basis for strong Arab relations. The King was optimistic about the results of Jordan's mediation among Arab countries, and this reflects the Arab Nation's determination to pursue the struggle towards achieving unity and towards regaining its rights and establishing peace.

Sawt Al Shaab: Strengthening Palestinians' steadfastness

IN his press conference Saturday, King Hussein spoke emphatically on his adherence to the policy of strengthening the steadfastness of the Palestinian people under Israeli rule because, he said, steadfastness means preserving the Palestinian identity in the occupied territory. He also underlined the deep and strong relationship between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples, and the Jordanian commitment to work for the restoration of Arab rights in Palestine. Jordanians and Palestinians form one family and work together to help their kinsmen in the occupied lands and work hand in hand to fend off all dangers confronting the homeland. The King told journalists that strengthening the steadfastness of the Palestinian people under Israeli rule means bolstering the security of Jordan and enhancing the defences of the Arab World at large.

Arab-Israeli strategic balance: How?

By Dr. Waleed Sa'adi

THERE is an international consensus that any meaningful and operational negotiations between the Arabs and Israel should be based first and foremost on the attainment of strategic balance between the two sides. How this foundation for negotiations can be realised by the Arab side is the real issue now.

The calculus of strategic equilibrium is indeed complex and multidimensional. Surely it cannot be measured solely by the quantity and quality of armaments of both sides. Nor could high technology, which determines the military-industrial base of either side, be gauged in mechanical terms devoid of intellectual content and dimension.

The route to strategic equilibrium begins in the mind. There must be a conviction, a belief, by the Arab side that such a balance is realisable and lies within their reach. If such a conviction is lacking in the Arab mind, and if the Arab side continues to harbour feelings of inferiority, then the battle is lost before it is actually begun.

Likewise the contrary is true. Strategic equilibrium cannot be based on the loose foundation of exaggerated self-confidence or self-deceit as was the case in 1967.

There is no doubt that the Syrian high technology military prowess coupled with Jordan's sophisticated military preparedness constitute a giant leap towards the attainment of military balance between the Arabs and Israel. The consolidation and institutionalisation of the relationship between Amman and Damascus would clearly lend more credence and effect to this giant step in the right direction. However, there is a lot to be done and accomplished; for as long as Baghdad is kept out of this embryonic "Amman-Damascus axis," the calculus of strategic balance would continue to be undermined. Thus, the most commendable and noble mediation by His Majesty King Hussein between Baghdad and Damascus should be highlighted

and be provided with the necessary impetus and support. It is no surprise that the King and the Jordanian government are, according to this mediation, the highest priority possible; and that is why every endeavour in that direction is assuming more and more urgency and significance. The attainment of a genuine and institutionalised Amman-Damascus-Baghdad axis is the dream of every Arab. It is equally the yearning of all Arabs that the embryonic rapprochement between the three capitals, would mushroom into a general Arab rapprochement.

There are, to be sure, many formidable obstacles on the road to true Arab rapprochement as the differences between the Arab capitals, including Damascus and Baghdad, on a number of issues, are indeed fundamental and profound. The gaps between the respective Arab capitals need to be addressed and bridged faithfully and effectively before the emerging relationships could

assume the strength and permanency they deserve. The Arab peoples have become accustomed to hasty and clumsy attempts at rapprochement only to be followed by equally hasty breakdowns and failures. Arab scepticism of "improvised brotherly Arab relationships" has roots in many unfortunate precedents. Therefore Arabs everywhere have grown to be wary of artificial and superficial attempts at reconciliation that could not pass the stresses and strains which normally and naturally ensue with the lapse of time and events.

Organically linked with the process of true rapprochement between Baghdad and Damascus is the issue of the Gulf war between Iran and Iraq. One cannot imagine a real improvement in the relationship between the two capitals without a solution to that infamous conflict or, at the least, the realignment of positions to bridge the serious gap which unfortunately reigns

between Baghdad and Damascus over the war issue. That war is certainly bad news for Iran and Iraq and its fallout is poisoning the whole Middle East region. The stoppage of the bleeding must be accorded the highest priority and the friendship and brotherhood which once reigned between the Arabs and Iranians must be reestablished at the earliest opportunity.

The projected Amman-Damascus-Baghdad axis which is commonly known as the Eastern Front, is not intended to belittle the vital roles of the other Arab capitals. Indeed one cannot visualise a complete recovery of the Arab bargaining strength without the support and involvement of Saudi Arabia and the other Arab countries. Nor could one imagine such a recovery without Cairo. No matter how grave one views the Camp David accords, one cannot lose sight of the big leverage that Cairo has with Tel Aviv. Cairo had indeed served notice on Israel and other

interested countries that the so-called cold peace existing between Cairo and Tel Aviv would not warm up without the resolution of the Palestinian issue in an equitable and reasonable manner.

Over and above the foregoing propositions, the actual leap towards the attainment of strategic balance between the Arabs and Israel would commence when the Arabs, governments and peoples, begin the real process of transformation in a systematic yet evolutionary manner into modern societies. In Islam there is a basic precept that asserts that God changes a nation only to the extent its people change themselves. It is high time, if not outright overdue, that all the Arabs reexamine their ways of thinking, analysis and decision making. Positive change is certainly overdue. The current negative status quo is a prescription for suffocation, paralysis and slow death. It is within our grasp to decide which way we intend to go.

Japan seeks to build its influence at the U.N.

By Nick Ludington
The Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — With U.S. and Soviet influence on the wane in the United Nations, Japan is working to build its political clout in the world body.

Japan is moving cautiously, conscious of sensitivities dating back to World War II. It was admitted to the United Nations only in 1956, and the U.N. charter still makes indirect reference to Japan as a World War II enemy of the countries that founded the world body.

But by working steadily in recent years to convert its economic muscle into political power, Japan has:

— Pushed successfully for a committee of intergovernmental experts to try to make the United Nations more efficient and effective.

— Worked to gain more posts for its citizens in U.N. organisations.

— Taken its first steps in conflict resolution, quietly coordinating its own efforts with those of the United Nations to solve the Iran-Iraq war and get Vietnamese troops out of Kampuchea.

— Slipped past the Soviets this year to become the no. 2 contributor to the U.N. budget.

Japan now contributes 10.84 per cent of the U.N. budget, second only to the United States. Contributions are based on the strength of member states' economies.

The Soviet Union, excluding the Soviet republics of the Ukraine and Byelorussia, which have separate U.N. membership, contributes 10.5 per cent of the U.N. budget.

Ambassador Tomohiko Kobayashi, Japan's deputy U.N. envoy, said his country sees its U.N. role as an opportunity to boost its world standing.

"It's a place where we can make our own advertisement... particularly to smaller countries who send first-rate people to the U.N., going home to be foreign or prime minister. The U.N. is a show window for Japan," he said.

He pointed to what he calls a decline of Soviet influence among some developing countries that are retreating from leftist economic principles and becoming more pragmatic.

"It is a good time for a constructive dialogue with the developing nations who realise ideologies are just words... I think we have exercised a certain influence in their behaviour," Kobayashi said.

"We believe we have come through the same process of development. We believe we have a better concept of their problems than the United States. They have less distrust for us than the former

colonial powers and the superpowers... we believe we can really play a dominant role," he said of the Third World.

Japan's new push at the United Nations is part of a larger Japanese strategy of taking a bigger role in world affairs. Japan's official foreign aid doubled between 1982 and 1985 and is programmed to double again by 1992. It now stands at \$4.5 billion annually. This is half the total of U.S. aid, which is not growing.

Japan disclaims any ambition to compete with the United States for political leadership of the Western bloc. But Japan's move for a higher profile at the United Nations comes when its economic power is growing mightily and U.S. and Soviet influence are declining.

"Historians may well mark the mid-1980s as the time when Japan surpassed the United States to become the world's dominant economic power," professor Ezra Vogel, director of the U.S.-Japan relations programme at Harvard University, wrote this spring in the American journal "Foreign Affairs."

B. Sen, the Indian secretary-general of the United Nations' Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee, says U.S. influence among developing countries has dipped dramatically because of its refusal to join in negotiations for a "new world economic order." Its refusal to sign the U.N. law of the sea treaty after it dictated most of its terms, its support for Israel, its refusal to apply sanctions against South Africa and its reduced monetary contributions to the United Nations.

"If the United States does not restore its influence the Japanese will walk in the back door," he said.

Yet some believe that China, though lacking Japan's economic clout, has a better chance to gain leadership among Third World nations because it is one of them. A senior U.N. official, who declined to be identified by name, said Japan often is perceived at the United Nations as an ally of its Western economic partners.

The Chinese also enjoy permanent membership of the U.N. Security Council, an advantage that gives Peking veto power and which galls the Japanese as unfair.

"We feel we are really handicapped," said Kobayashi. He noted that Japan pays fourteen times more to the U.N. budget than China.

But Kobayashi said Japan will keep trying to exercise its influence through available means, including greater contributions to the U.N. system and efforts to put more Japanese in high U.N. posts.

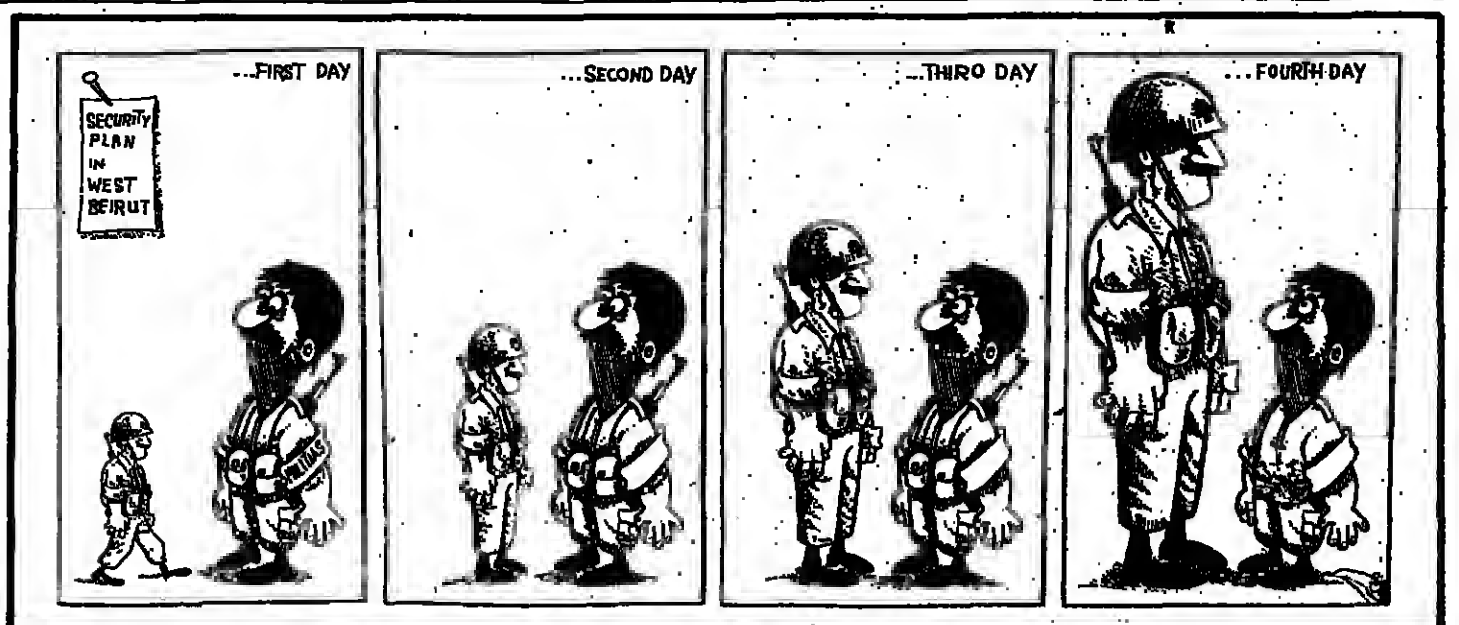
passports and weapons," West German federal police spokesman Willy Terstiege said.

"But as far as we know there has never been an international team of European terrorists carrying out attacks," Terstiege said at a ceremony dedicating the federal police force's new building in this central West German city.

"There is no indication that leftist terrorists have set up a command internationally coordinating the attacks," Terstiege added.

Speculation about international cooperation among terrorists grew after July 9 slaying of Beckurts.

The same day, a bomb ripped through the office of a special police squad in central Paris, killing a senior police official and wounding more than 20 others.



Italy goes from stability to crisis in two weeks

By Barry Moody
Reuters

ROME — In two short weeks Italy has plunged from its greatest political stability for 40 years into a crisis so severe that it could lead to a premature general election.

Prime Minister-designate Giulio Andreotti, a veteran Christian Democrat given a mandate by President Francesco Cossiga on July 10 to try to form a government, faces enormous difficulties and his chances of constructing a viable administration seem slim.

The Socialists, whose participation is essential if Andreotti is to form a government with a majority in parliament, are openly hostile to his efforts.

In these circumstances Andreotti, who has been prime minister five times, might eventually be forced to form a minority government or admit defeat. In either case a general election would likely follow, possibly as early as the autumn and nearly two years ahead of schedule.

But two weeks after the government fell the crisis seems

A few weeks ago, Italy still had appeared to be enjoying the benefits of its most stable political period in the 40 years of the republic, with Socialist Prime Minister Bettino Craxi at the helm of a five-party coalition which had ruled for a post-war record of nearly three years.

The start of the crisis on June 26, when the government suffered a shock parliamentary defeat and resigned the next day, was completely unexpected and astonished the general public and many political commentators.

Craxi also appeared to have been taken unawares and had to rush back from a European Community summit in The Hague.

The Socialist prime minister had won international kudos for his stewardship over a period of unaccustomed stability which helped Italy make important economic gains, including a sharp cut in inflation, and greatly improved the country's image abroad.

But two weeks after the government fell the crisis seems

deeper than ever and the bad old days of power struggles and squabbling between the parties, which led to 44 post-war governments, seem to have returned with a vengeance.

Intense efforts by Cossiga failed completely to overcome a bitter quarrel between the Socialists and the Christian Democrats, which has turned into a straightforward power struggle.

In the face of his failure to shift the two parties — senior partners in the outgoing government — from rigid, irreconcilable positions, Cossiga appointed Andreotti because the Christian Democrats form Italy's biggest party.

But if anything this appears to have made things worse, "the crisis has been pushed into a blind alley," Craxi said on July 11.

The long period of stability under Craxi appears to have hidden a simmering dispute between his Socialists and the Christian Democrats which finally erupted following a Sicilian regional election last month.

The Socialists were determined

to exploit the popularity of Craxi's success but the Christian Democrats, which provided every prime minister until 1981, became increasingly restless at their exclusion from the premiership.

The dispute came to a head when Craxi refused to accept a Christian Democrat claim that he had undertaken to hand back the premiership by the end of this year.

Christian Democrat leader Ciriaco de Mita, who has masterminded a recovery of his party's fortunes since a severe general election setback in 1983, is determined not to back down over the his party's right to lead the government.

The Socialists are equally adamant that Craxi should continue his successful premiership.

The reaction of the public and commentators has been a mixture of traditional cynicism about the selfishness of politicians and concern that the crisis is a result of a struggle for power and apparently nothing to do with the interests of the country.

Vietnam's Communist chief, hardliner who shunned limelight

BANGKOK (R) — Communist party chief Le Duan, whose death last Thursday was announced by Vietnam radio, was the most powerful man in Vietnam's ruling politburo but stayed a shadowy figure, deliberately shunning the limelight.

Despite holding the top party job since the death of revolutionary leader Ho Chi Minh in 1969, he opposed a personality cult and stressed the concept of collective leadership in many speeches.

This may have been the reason why he did not take on the additional post of Vietnamese president when the national assembly met in April 1981 to implement a new constitution.

The job, carrying newly-created wide executive powers, went

instead to Truong Chinh, number two in the politburo.

Lee Duan died in Hanoi after what the radio called a serious illness. There had been persistent reports since the early 1980s that he was in bad health, although he continued to make major, if rare, policy speeches.

He was re-elected party secretary-general at his fifth congress in March 1982. The same year Western reports said he was treated in the Soviet Union for kidney and lung problems and the same ailment appeared to have been the reason for his three month stay in Moscow earlier this year. Informed East European sources said he had fallen seriously ill in mid-January and received emergency care in Moscow. He returned to Vietnam in April.

He had come under increasing fire for his handling of the economy, particularly the disastrous currency reforms introduced last September.

Like most of the elderly Hanoi leadership, his hardline attitudes were bred in long years of fighting first the French and then the Americans.

Le Duan was born on April 7, 1907, to the family of a carpenter in Quang Tri province (now Binh Tri Thien province).

He first took part in the struggle for independence against the French in the 1920s and joined the Indochinese Communist Party, the forerunner of the Vietnamese Communist Party, at its inception in 1930.

He rose through the ranks and

when Ho Chi Minh died became the top-ranking politburo member and undisputed party chief. Despite his revolutionary background, he was a pragmatist in trying to cope with great social and economic difficulties.

When North and South Vietnam were reunified after the defeat of the Americans and their allies in the South in 1975, he advocated piecemeal and product-based wages. He described this policy as "a progressive mode of remuneration which conforms to the socialist principle of distribution according to the work done."

This was mainly responsible for Vietnam achieving food self-sufficiency for the first time in the 1982/83 crop year.

European terrorists cooperate, but no sign of central command

By Ulrike Suedmeyer
The Associated Press

WIESBADEN, West Germany — Western Europe's leftist terrorists have been cooperating with each other, but there are no indications of a central command planning attacks, West German officials said July 11.

They spoke in interviews with the Associated Press as investigators continued a manhunt for the Red Army faction terrorists who allegedly killed industrialist Karl Heinz Beckurts and his chauffeur on July 9.

"European leftist terror groups, for example the French group Direct Action and the West German Red Army faction, have helped each other with hideouts,

Although there was no claim of responsibility after the Paris bombing, the coincidence of timing was a major element pointing the finger at the terrorist group Direct Action.

"We informed the French investigators immediately on Wednesday (July 9) about the attack that killed Beckurts and the French investigators told us about the bomb that went off in Paris," Terstiege said.

However, West German Interior Minister Friedrich Zimmermann told the AP in a separate interview that "apart from the coinciding date of the bombings, there are no indications that the French and German terrorists actually coordinated the attacks."

Zimmermann, who also was in

Wiesbaden for the building dedication, said the bombing near Munich indicated the Red Army faction is seeking better cooperation with an Italian terrorist group, the leftist Red Brigades.

"The Red Army faction's Mara Cagol commando unit that claimed responsibility for the (Beckurts) bombing is a clue," Zimmermann said.

Mara Cagol was the wife of Renato Curcio, one of the Red Brigades founders. She was killed in a shootout with Italian police in 1975.

Zimmermann said European terrorists "have the same goals, trying to hit industrial, military and government targets, but to our knowledge they have never carried out an attack together."

Except for the Beckurts killing, the West German officials declined to speak about specific cases, instead giving the overall picture of terrorism as compiled by experts.

Wighard Haertl, spokesman for the West German interior ministry, told the AP in Wiesbaden that "direct cooperation would contradict the terrorists' clandestine operations."

"They keep in touch with groups in other countries with leaflets they secretly pass on and that investigators have found in West Germany and France in the past," Haertl said.

"But they live underground and contact only persons they trust. Each group operates independently," he said. "There

are no indications that there is a central terrorist command."

"We believe that French terrorists hide out in Belgium, maybe even in West Germany, and West German terrorists also cross the borders to other European countries after they carry out their attacks," Haertl added.

Terrorists of the Red Army faction have targeted U.S. military and West German business and government interests for more than years.

Investigators hold the "Direct Action responsible for a number of recent bombings and assassinations in France."

Both groups claimed responsibility for the bombing at the U.S. air force base in Frankfurt that killed two people and injured 20 others last August.

Television in Africa: Disappointment and hope

John McElhann, a Canadian journalist, recently completed a tour of this African continent. This commentary is based on a report by him published by the Canadian International Development and Research Centre (IDRC).

In N'Zikpli, a small village without electricity in central Ivory Coast, the elders of the community were asked about what they had learned from the battery-powered television set the government had installed in the local school in 1974.

After explaining, through an interpreter, that they had learned a lot about life outside the village, the men were asked if they had any questions about what they had seen. The chief was the first to speak: "Is it true that the white man can fly without wings?" Asked another man: "Why are whites always stabbing, punching, and shooting each other?"

Two decades ago TV was thought to be the miracle needed to solve many of Africa's problems. It was to be the new catalyst, the catalyst necessary to usher the continent into the mainstream of 20th century life.

What has happened in television since then? Is it being used to its full capacity to aid development? If not, how can it be made more effective? What is the future for this potent medium in Africa?

The magic multiplier

TV offers a number of advantages to nations where there is a need for rapid development of education and the communication of information on development. It has been referred to as "the magic multiplier" and can be an inspiring teacher when used in the nonformal education of adults.

TV has the potential of reaching large numbers of people and making development goals universally known. Because of its combination of audio and visual components it can be used to communicate relatively complicated messages to illiterate audiences. Television with its captivating images and ability to inform masses of people provides African villagers the same potential as farmers in India or the

Canadian Inuit for making the transition from a traditional society to a modern one.

Despite this potential, television's record as an educator and instrument for effecting changes and progress in Africa is a dismal one. The medium has not lived up to its promise of enlightening and motivating the masses.

Nigeria recently celebrated its 25th anniversary of broadcasting by examining what TV has become and discussing what it might be. The feeling among government officials, broadcasters, and the general public is that it has failed to meet the challenge of accelerating the development process.

In fact, there is evidence that the medium has even had a negative influence and has enlarged, rather than diminished, the gap between rich and poor, between urban and rural people.

And, instead of nurturing traditional cultural values, it has crowded them by offering large doses of imported programming. Those who most need information on development, the urban poor and rural populations, are usually not within reach of TV signals, can't afford sets, or don't have electricity.

Dr. O.S. Fadiyibi, of the University of Lagos, mass communications department, describes television as a reverse Robin Hood. Poor people's taxes are being used to entertain the rich, and governments end up paying large sums of money to send the wrong

messages to the wrong people.

Part of the reason that broadcasting in Africa has been a disappointment is that the analysis of the potential of television was faulty to start with. There has been a tendency to underestimate the social, cultural, economic, and political restraints that combine to limit its potential.

Political restraints in particular have handicapped TV's development. Few governments have encouraged the kind of freedom of expression in the media that would enable the urban and rural poor to better understand themselves and articulate their needs. In light of the political instability of many African countries, it is not easy for governments to embrace the idea of giving their citizens the means to explore various development options and express their points of view.

According to University of Dakar communications professor El Hadj Diouf, most African governments fear that once communications channels are opened, they will be used to criticise the authorities, organise resistance, and even overthrow governments. But Diouf argues that there is a much greater risk in keeping the population mute and ignoring their input.

Unfortunately, African governments have chosen to set up TV broadcasting systems in the style of the Western countries that helped establish them. They tend to be cumbersome and heavily centralised, and depend on high-cost production techniques and facilities. In Zaire and Zambia, for example, so much has been spent on establishing a highly centralised and expensive infrastructure that there is little money left to produce the programmes needed to modernise attitudes and behaviour.

TV rarely depicts Africa

As a rule, African television rarely shows or explains Africa to Africans. It looks elsewhere. What is often broadcast on Africa TV is American programmes such as "Dallas," "I Love Lucy," or French police films.

On most evenings the African content seen on the majority of African TV stations consists of political speeches, reports on visits of foreign dignitaries, development "experts" speaking over the heads of the average viewer (in European languages), or dramas featuring upper class characters with Western problems.

Despite the costs and handicaps, just about every African government has chosen to develop television. It is a glamorous medium. It brings prestige and provides a means for getting political messages to largely illiterate populations.

A number of those surveyed agree that the only justifiable role for television in low-income countries is that of development instrument. And it can be an effective instrument only if it is integrated and coordinated with other development efforts.

Many people see a variety of possibilities for the future of development-support television: broadcast signals that reach rural as well as urban areas via satellites; government-purchased and maintained TV sets for group viewing, powered by solar energy, coordinated multimedia campaigns and local animation; increased feedback and interaction between broadcaster and viewer; and community broadcasting in local languages.

During a 3-month, 10-country survey of television broadcasting, I saw some encouraging signs. Nigeria has plans to restructure



In Niamey, Niger, technician Sidlo Salifon of the société nigérienne de télévision tests solar panels that will power TV sets in remote communities.

completely its 32-station network and change its programming orientation to make it more responsive to development needs and relevant to a larger percentage of the population. The Nigerian Television Authority will be partly decentralised; local stations will be given the resources to produce material for the national network as well as their local programming.

Ivory Coast has started to coordinate nonformal educational TV broadcasts with a network of field animators who are equipped with other forms of development-support communications media. TV sets that were used in the formal education of children are being taken out of the schools and placed in villages around the country.

Niger is proving that a lot can be done with few resources. It operates solar-powered TV sets for group viewing in a number of rural villages and in urban youth centres. Tele-Sahel's whole programme schedule is geared to nonformal education and more video recording is being done on location in rural areas than in the Niamey studios.

Most of the ingredients necessary to "reinvent television" and radically change its present orientation already exist in Africa. Considerable talent has been developed in film and television production; networks of field personnel (agricultural agents, teachers, and health workers) have been established; and in some countries, such as Ivory Coast, where educational programming and field animation have been combined, the urban poor and rural populations have been receptive to information on development.

Those interviewed suggest that, if television is going to be used as a tool for development, it will be the combination of newly developed technologies — solar power,

satellites, low-cost portable video equipment — and the decentralisation of the medium that will make it possible.

Field animation or having someone on the spot to explain what is on the screen and answer questions can be the glue needed to make the technology-delivered messages stick.

Western-oriented broadcasters

A major obstacle to reorienting African television broadcasting toward communications for development is the broadcasters. In the countries surveyed the majority of writers, producers, directors, and journalists were either educated in the West or used Western programming to inspire their productions. Because the broadcasters are, for the most part, part of the educated urban elite, their programmes tend to speak to that sector of society.

Bayo Sanda is general manager of the Nigeria Television Authority's station, in Ibadan. Africa's first station. He agrees that producers should become more aware of development needs but adds that all the blame for television's failure to live up to its promise should not be shouldered by the broadcasters. Sanda says the objectives of television broadcasting have never been clearly defined. "No one advised us to serve an elitist segment of the population. There has been no planned strategy and programming has been uncoordinated with other development efforts."

Before television can be "reinvented" and play a more important role in supporting and promoting development, courageous leaders must want to do so. It remains to be seen how much political will exists to mold the medium into a force for inspiring change and giving it the freedom to work toward that goal — IDRC Reports.

Randa Habib's Corner Pushing into Jerash

THE Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts is a source of joy for Jordanians as it gives all of us the opportunity to attend plays and musicals from different parts of the world.

Unfortunately, many visitors to the festival have already had bad experiences. Those who went to Jerash on Friday evening were surprised to find that they were not allowed to park in the public parking places reserved for visitors to the festival. Although the large parking lots were completely empty, for some mysterious reason the police did not allow anybody to park there on that night.

Thousands of people were rushing to the entrance of the festival site and police had to use tough measures in order to maintain some discipline and order. But the problem was that too many tickets had been sold for Adel Imam's play and there was a far larger audience than the amphitheatre could accommodate. The result was that the lucky ones — the pushy and more bulky — were able to attend the play while others left with a promise that they will be refunded.

As for the play itself, it was scheduled to start at 9 p.m. but actually got underway at 10.30 p.m. because part of the set was destroyed by a group that had performed earlier on the same stage. That, at least, was the reason given by the Egyptian group.

Finally many people left at 1.30 a.m. at the end of the second act and before the start of the third and final act because they just could not keep their eyes open any longer.

Another point to raise is since so much food is displayed and sold within the ruins of Jerash, why are there not enough rubbish boxes? The result is, as everybody can see, a mess of corn, paper bags, empty juice boxes everywhere in the Roman city.

I wonder why do we turn any festival, artful or not, into a festival of food consumption?

Oil crisis costing many Egyptians jobs in Gulf states

By Nejla Sammakia
The Associated Press

CAIRO, Egypt — The financial disaster pummeling the world's oil exporters is causing a recession in Egypt's main export product: — Egyptians.

At least a quarter of Egypt's expatriate work force of 2.2 million is coming home from the oil-exporting Arab states, and a spirited debate has blossomed on what it will mean to the country. Some experts see it as a blessing to the economy, despite a drop in foreign currency being repatriated by the workers. Others, worried about critically short foreign exchange reserves, are less optimistic.

Cairo Governor Youssef Sabry Abu Taleb has said a shortage of skilled labour is to blame for the city's chaotic, overcrowded streets, its sewage system crumbling from disrepair and other problems.

With tens of thousands of teachers abroad, the number of students per teacher has climbed by 40 per cent in recent years.

"If well managed, returning workers and professionals will do this country a great service," said Hamdi Saleh, a political scientist. Saleh cited his job as symptomatic of the brain drain: "I'm a political scientist, but now I'm teaching economics. We simply do not have enough economists."

Egyptians' golden dream of high salaries in the wealthy Arab states began with a trickle of emigration in the 1960s. But because an oversupply of petroleum has driven down the national wealth of the oil states, the dream is vanishing.

Many Gulf states have found it wiser to replace imported labourers and professionals with their own or to lower salaries of foreigners.

As a result, many Egyptians who have come home for summer vacations will not be renewing their contracts abroad.

At Cairo international airport early this summer, the normally chaotic return of teachers for the vacation period took place with less fanfare than usual. Luggage carts were less full, lacking the customary overstuffed suitcases, colour televisions, electric fans and piles of fluffy blankets — indications of reduced purchasing

power.

"We felt things were getting poorer there," said a woman just back from Saudi Arabia with her husband, who is a high school teacher, and their three children.

"They haven't paid my husband's salary for three months now. He and many others have had to borrow money from Saudis," said the woman, who declined to be identified.

An airport customs officer said the average revenue from dues was lower this year than last year, despite recently increased rates. Such shortfalls are but minor irritants, however, compared with anticipated huge drops in foreign exchange sent home by Egyptians working abroad.

The respected economic magazine *Ahram* Iqtisadi reported that expatriates have earned an average of \$10 billion a year in the 1980s, repatriating \$5 billion through official and unofficial channels.

About \$2 billion of that came officially, through public sector and joint-venture banks, the government's largest source of foreign exchange.

Remittances peaked at \$3.9 billion in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1983, and *Ahram* Iqtisadi said they will be down to no more than \$2 billion in the fiscal year that just ended.

The decline will continue with the projected return of at least 400,000 of the 2.2 million work force this year.

Some experts also predict widespread dissatisfaction among the returnees as they find a way of life at home far less glamorous than that in which they are accustomed.

They are returning to a country with an average per capita annual income of \$600 compared with, for instance, \$20,600 in Qatar, according to figures published before the current oil glut.

More than a million foreign labourers are believed to have left the Gulf states in the past 18 months, especially construction workers. Saudi Arabia has said it will rid itself of 600,000 foreign workers by 1990.

Th maximise remittances from Egyptians remaining abroad, government banks operate with a private organisation a joint venture to invest expatriate money under favourable conditions.

Taking a liberty

New York's Statue of Liberty has welcomed many legal immigrants to the land of the free. Other not so lucky immigrants enter the U.S. elsewhere to seek their liberty. Philip Stevens reports from the U.S.-Mexico border on the "illegals."

The irony of America's recent Liberty celebrations in New York harbour probably escaped the thousands of people gathering in Tijuana at the western edge of Mexico's border with the U.S.

As President Ronald Reagan led the festivities marking the statue's 100th year of welcoming the "huddled masses" fleeing poverty or persecution in other parts of the world, these would-be immigrants were concentrating their energies on an illegal dash into California.

Each day, about 1,800 of them — mostly Mexican but including some from troubled nations in central and Latin America — will be caught by U.S. border patrol agents covering a desolate 60-mile stretch of mountain scrubland running east from the Pacific coast. At least that number again will make it across undetected.

The lucky ones, if they could ever be called that, will head for Los Angeles and the vast farmlands to the north, taking low-paid jobs harvesting fruit and vegetables, working in textile "sweat shops," or in car parks, hotels and restaurants.

Those who are caught will usually be held for eight hours before being sent back across the border, where the chances are they will immediately launch another attempt.

At Mexico lurches further into economic crisis, the long-established stream of these "illegals" into America's Golden State is turning into a torrent. This year the border patrol estimates that it will arrest one person every 35 seconds, while up to twice that number will evade capture.

At the border post of San Ysidro, a scrappy town directly facing Tijuana, the flimsy fence marking the line between the two countries is riddled with holes. With evening approaching, hundreds of people, mostly young men, can be seen gathering on the Mexican side for a nightly game of cat-and-mouse with the U.S. immigration service.

There is no doubt who is winning. "The border is out of control," says Mr. Ed Pyeat, a border control supervisor in one of the busiest areas, as he points to the winding trails cut into the sun-parched hills and canyons by the feet of literally hundreds of

thousands would-be immigrants.

Many will stay in the U.S. for just a few weeks or months, taking advantage of seasonal work to earn desperately-needed cash to take home to their families. Others will seek to become permanent residents, perhaps joining relatives and friends who have secured citizenship or much-prized "green cards" giving permission to work.

The latest U.S. census — in 1980 — counted over 500,000 Mexicans with residency permits, 250,000 naturalised Mexican immigrants, and 500,000 illegal aliens from that country in California. The numbers are thought to have risen sharply since then.

The Mexicans, however, represent just one element in a wave of immigration which is rapidly transforming California society and has won the Tom Bradley terminal at Los Angeles International airport the nickname of the Ellis Island of the 1980s.

California is the land of opportunity for an influx of new arrivals from America's west rather than its east: for South Koreans, Filipinos, Taiwanese and Vietnamese rather than the Polish, Russian and German Jews or the Italian and Irish who landed in New York at the turn of the century.

A few statistics tell the story. The state's foreign-born population doubled between 1970 and 1980 and 16 per cent of the present 26 million residents were born overseas. Different minority ethnic groups represent close to 35 per cent of the total population and by the year 2000, that figure is expected to rise to around 45 per cent.

The resulting kaleidoscope of cultures is at its most vivid in Los Angeles. Here, there are more Koreans than in any city outside Seoul, more Mexicans than any but Mexico City. Little Saigon, China or Koreatown are sprinkled between the Hispanic barrios in the centre of the city and increasingly among the suburbs of more traditional immigrants from Oklahoma or Nebraska.

The state government estimates that between 200,000 and 250,000 new immigrants will settle in California each year over



the decade, perhaps half that number representing political refugees or illegal aliens.

While most of the immigrants from Mexico, central and Latin America have had little or no schooling and take low-skilled manual work, the arrivals from South-East Asia are usually well-educated and often have sufficient resources to set up in business.

The Asians, a recent report by the Rand Corporation concluded, are better educated than any immigrants in U.S. history so that "their children move into higher education and white-collar jobs one generation faster than Latinos."

The census figures suggest that proportionately twice the number

of Asian immigrants graduate from university or college than white Americans, while their median income is significantly above the average.

Typically, many first-generation arrivals have established small businesses in the retail and services sector — shops, restaurants, dry cleaners, garages — while their children quickly move into the professions.

That success frequently sparks significant resentment among young whites who appear jealous of the Asians' academic achievement or in black areas where the small businesses dominate the local economy.

It is the rising tide of Mexicans fleeing poverty and refugees from

countries such as El Salvador and Guatemala, however, which has stirred political controversy and has led to proposals now before the U.S. Congress which would make it illegal for employers to hire illegal entrants.

Mr. Howard Ezell, the controversial commissioner in charge of the Immigration and Naturalisation Service's western region, argues that the borders can be secured only if the sanctions against employers remove the economic incentive for illegal entrants.

To meet the labour needs of employers, he suggests a "guest-workers" programme which would allow closely-regulated and purely temporary access.

Civil rights groups, however, are strongly critical of such proposals, suggesting that the guest-worker scheme would be little different from legalised slavery. The independent report from Rand supports their contention that Mexican immigration has served as stimulus to, rather than a drain on, the Californian economy.

While the Liberty celebrations have reinforced an idealised view of America's past immigration, the same criticisms — that the immigrants did not speak English, that they were taking much-needed jobs, or that they were poorly educated — were made against those who landed on Ellis Island — Financial Times Feature.

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Team will represent Jordan in 1986 Argentina World Championship Rally

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — For the first time in the history of rallying, Jordan will be represented in a world championship event this year, it was announced here Sunday.

Mr. Haile Aguiar, 50, manager of the Amman Marriott Hotel, and his son Gonzalo, 17, will carry the Jordanian banner to the 1986 Marlboro Argentina Rally, which is scheduled to take place in Argentina in the first week of August, marking the first-ever entry by the Kingdom in an event which is part of the year's world championship series.

The Aguiars will be driving a specially-built Nissan 240 RS against the high-powered world class vehicles fielded by international teams such as Peugeot and Lancia and driven by leading contenders to the world title including Juha Kankkunen, Timo Salonen and Markku Alen of Finland, Massimo Siasion of Italy and Mikael Ericsson of Sweden.

"We will be happy if we finish the Argentina Rally and very happy if we gain a slot in the top 20," said the senior Aguiar at a press conference held on Sunday. The Royal Automobile Club of Jordan (RACJ) has endorsed the Aguiars' participation in the Argentina Rally as the official Jordanian entry. According to regulations laid down by the Federation Internationale du Sport Automobile (FISA), any person holding a valid driving licence issued by the concerned authorities of a country can represent the same country in the world championship series. The FISA code qualifies the Aguiars, who are of Uruguayan origin and hold U.S. nationality, to represent Jordan since they hold Jordanian drivers' licences and their entry is supported by the RACJ.

His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah, a leading contender to this year's national rallying championship, read out a message of good wishes from His Majesty King Hussein to Mr. Aguiar at the outset of Sunday's press conference.

"We are honoured that you will be heading the official rally team

representing the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in the Argentina 1986 World Championship Rally in August," the King's message said. "We wish you and your team the best of luck and our blessings," it added.

The Jordanian entry, which is expected to cost between \$80,000 and \$90,000, is partly sponsored by the Amman confectioners and ice cream makers Ata Ali. The rest of the bill is footed by the Aguiars themselves, who are also paying the cost of the "Group B" Nissan RS 240 now on the high seas on its way to South America.

Mr. Aguiar said "we are taking part in the Argentina Rally for fun" and expressed hope that his entry in the event "will pave the way for increased Jordanian participation in world class events in rallying."

The 2,514-kilometre Argentina Rally, one of the 12 events that make up the world championship series, stretches across the tough mountainous regions of Argentina between the capital Buenos Aires and the city of Cordoba.

Apart from the senior Aguiar, who will drive the Nissan for most of the rally, and Gonzalo, who will navigate, the Jordanian team includes Mrs. Teresita Aguiar — the veteran driver's wife — as manager; Haitam Mufti, the renowned Jordanian rallying ace, as service manager, assisted by mechanic Tawfiq Hakoun; Samir Dakkak of the Marriott handling public relations and Samir Dajani as press officer.

Mr. Aguiar expressed hope that he would be able to carry Jordanian licence plates for the Nissan 240 RS which now bears Northern Ireland plates. But, he said, securing Jordanian plates would entail paying customs for the car to the Jordanian authorities. However, he said he plans to carry with him a set of Jordanian plates hoping "that I would not be caught at checking points."

Another factor behind Mr. Aguiar's interest in carrying Jordanian plates is consideration of possible hostility from Argentine rallying fans who may not like the sight of English number plates.

On availability of support equipment and servicing during the Argentina Rally, Mr. Aguiar said the same team that offers support to the national champion of Argentina will be in charge of maintaining and servicing the Jordanian entry. Furthermore, he said, Volkswagen of Brazil is also sending a support team for the Jordanian vehicle.

The vehicle is painted with the distinct red, green and black colours of the Jordanian national flag against a background of white and bears the legend: "The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan" in English as well as Spanish.

In response to reporters' questions, Prince Abdullah, who heads the Royal Rallying Team of Jordan in the national championship series, said the entire process of customs regulations and related procedures governing rallying vehicles was under review. He promised that a decision favourable to rally drivers and sponsors would emerge in a month's time. It is expected that the decision will alleviate the heavy burden of customs duties and other related charges on vehicles and spare parts that enter the country.

Prince Abdullah also said the Royal Rallying Team was planning to take part in this year's Oman leg of the Middle East Rally Championship series. He said the team would also extend all possible support to other enthusiasts from Jordan who may want to take part in rallying events in the Middle East as well as outside the region.

Mr. Aguiar said the idea of entering the Argentina Rally took shape after a regular annual visit to South America last year. "The idea was born after Her Royal Highness Princess Alia visited Punta del Este to judge the Arabian horse show," he said. "I was so impressed with the knowledge of the people of South America about Jordan and the King, and the positive reaction and eagerness with which they received Her Royal Highness."

The Argentina event is expected to be a close race among the leading contenders to the 1986



Haile Aguiar

World Championship title and at least seven national champions from Latin America. Juha Kankkunen's Peugeot is one of the favourites to win the event. With his victory in New Zealand last week, Kankkunen leads the contenders with a margin of 44 points towards the 1986 title.

The other events in the 1986 world championship series include the Monte Carlo Rally, the Rally do Portugal, the Corsica Rally, the Acropolis Rally, and the New Zealand Rally — all of which have already taken place — and the Ivory Coast Rally, the Lombard RAC Rally, the Thousand Lakes Rally in Scandinavia, the San Remo Rally of Italy and the Safari Rally of Kenya.

The RACJ hopes that the Jordan leg of the Middle East Rally Championship would be designated as one of the world championship series from the year 1988 and is now gearing all efforts to upgrade the standard of rallies in Jordan in terms of organisation, duration, distance etc. etc. to face the challenge of securing qualification for 1988.

Haile Aguiar was born in Uruguay and has been active in motor sports in South America since his early teens. In the 1950s and 1960s his career was very successful. He won to first place in the "Gran Premio Standard de Carretera" in 1959, the Argentina Grand Prix, from which modern rallies evolved. In addition to the "Gran Premio" he has won many races in different classes in South America. After immigrating to the USA he was active in all facets and classes of motor sports including: autos, boats and flying airplanes.

In 1981 he drove in the First International Jordan Rally. The

entire Aguiar family has participated in rallies. His wife, Teresita, and older son, Fiti, have driven in different rallies and his younger son, Gonzalo, has been a co-driver for his brother Fiti and to Haile.

In 1983 Haile and his wife, Teresita, together with Ziad Bustami and Samir Zein represented Jordan for the first time in an international rally in Kuwait.

The elder Aguiar has helped Derek Ledger, general manager of RACJ, in planning routes for the Jordan desert rallies.

The Aguiars' Nissan 240 RS is a highly competitive Group B rally car, prepared by Blydenstein Racing Ltd. in England. Similar cars have rallied worldwide and have proved their reliability and competitiveness.

The Argentina Rally, organised by Automovil Club Argentino, counts for the World Championship for manufacturers and for the world championship for rally drivers.

The length of the rally is 2,513.69 kilometres with 29 special stages and it is divided into 51 sections and four legs. The whole route, with the exception of first part of first leg, consists of very winding and steep mountainous roads covered with gravel and protected, from falling into the deep valleys, by walls of stone.

The first leg starts in the city of Buenos Aires and finishes in the city of Cordoba. The remaining legs start and finish in Cordoba.

Sarrapio wins stage 10

POITIERS, France (AP) — Angel-Jose Sarrapio of Spain won Sunday's 10th stage of the Tour de France cycling race, with Jorgen Pedersen of Denmark retaining the overall lead.

The stage was run at a strong average speed of 25 mph over 114 miles from Nantes.

Sarrapio and France's Jean-Claude Bagot staged a breakaway after the halfway point, that they extended to almost 10 minutes ahead of the pack. But near the finish, their speed dropped and the pack closed up.

Sarrapio finally won a sprint from Bagot by one second to take the stage victory in 4:27:16.

Mansell outduels Piquet to claim the British Grand Prix, lead in title race

BRAND HATCH, England (AP) — Nigel Mansell won the British Grand Prix Sunday to take the lead in the world drivers' championship.

Driving a Williams Honda, the 31-year-old Englishman won a thrilling duel with team-mate Nelson Piquet of Brazil to post his fourth victory in five Grand Prix races and snatch the drivers' lead from reigning world champion, Frenchman Alain Prost.

Prost, who now is four points behind Mansell in the drivers' championship, finished third. Mansell became the first Briton to win the race at Brands Hatch since Jim Clark in 1964 although last year he won the European Grand Prix on the same circuit.

The 75-lap race was held up for 85-minutes because of a nine car pile-up, in which Frenchman Jacques Laffite broke both ankles

and a leg. No other drivers were seriously injured.

When the race resumed, minus four of the 26 scheduled starters, Mansell and Piquet fought a nose-to-tail battle.

Repeatedly they broke the lap record, breaking through the 1 minute 11 and 1:10 barriers.

The 33-year-old Brazilian, world champion in 1981 and 1983, started in pole position for the 20th time in his career. But he was overtaken by the Briton on lap 23 and, after both drivers changed tires, Mansell was still ahead.

Piquet stayed in touch as the two team-mates lapped everyone else on the circuit, but by the end of the race Mansell was pulling away.

Mansell looked physically drained after his victory.

"We were constantly nose-to-tail. Nelson kept pushing and pushing all the time. He gave me half an inch and that was it."

"The person who was going to win was the one who could keep pushing."

"That's my excuse for being so tired," the Englishman said.

Only nine competitors finished the race. Behind Prost, who was driving a McLaren-TAG, came countryman Rene Arnoux in a Ligier Renault, and in fifth place was the second Briton home, Martin Brundle in a Tyrrell Renault.

Philippe Streiff of France was sixth in another Tyrrell Renault, while the only other finishers were Britons Johnny Dumfries in a Lotus Renault (7th) Derek Warwick in a Brabham BMW and Jonathan Palmer in a West Zakspeed (9th).

Athletics and boxing to be hit by boycott

By John Mehaffey
Reuter

LONDON — Athletics and boxing, traditionally two of the strongest African sports, are expected to be hardest hit by the boycott of this month's Edinburgh Commonwealth Games.

Tanzania Sunday joined Kenya, Nigeria, Ghana and Uganda in withdrawing from the Games in protest against Britain's refusal to take economic sanctions against South Africa, and more African nations are expected to follow.

On the track, Africans have provided much of the glamour and excitement of recent Games, particularly in the middle- and long-distance races.

Filbert Bayi's dazzling 1,500 metres world record in Christchurch in 1974, when he led from start to finish, was one of the great runs of all time.

And four years ago in Brisbane another Tanzanian, Juma Ikanga, fought local hero Rob De Castella every inch of the way before finally having to settle for second place in a marvellous marathon contest.

Kenya's middle and long distances and Nigerians in the sprints were expected to play major roles in Edinburgh.

The talented Kenyan track squad was headed by Olympic 3,000 metre steeplechase champion Julius Korir, who would have been defending the Commonwealth title he won in 1982.

John Ngugi, the surprise champion in this year's World Cross Country Championships, was selected to run in the 5,000 metres and Olympic bronze medalist Mike Musyoki was one of the favourites for the 10,000 metres.

Of the classy Nigerian sprinters, none will be more disappointed than Chidi Imo.

Imo, the African 100 metres champion, finished ahead of Olympic champion Carl Lewis at the Goodwill Games in Moscow last week and he was headed only by Canadian Ben Johnson, whose time of 9.95 seconds was the fastest ever at low altitude.

Another Nigerian with genuine medal hopes was Innocent Egbunike in the 400 metres. The versatile Egbunike has held national records in the 100 and 200 metres as well as the 400.

At the last Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh 16 years ago, Uganda was the leading boxing nation with three golds and hopes were high of at least emulating that haul this year.

Soviets build lead at Goodwill Games

By Kenneth Jantz
Associated Press Writer

MOSCOW — At the Goodwill Games on Saturday, Soviet wrestlers scored their second consecutive shutout, this time over Japan 10-0.

The United States wrestling squad defeated Turkey, 8-2, and five U.S. boxers, including two last-minute substitutes, for the weakened team, won first-round matches. Five Soviet boxers also won bouts.

The Soviet Union continued to dominate at the Games, leading

the gold medal list. The Soviets had 47 golds, and 128 medals overall, well ahead of the United States' 31 golds and 90 total medals.

Eight of the 10 Soviet wrestling victories were by pin, including Adlan Varayev's 22-second victory over Yoshinobu Hirayama. The United States won its second consecutive match, beating Turkey, with Olympian Dave Schultz pinning opponent Burhan Sabanci at 4 minutes, 4 seconds.

Terrance Southerland and Ernesto Chavez, two last-minute substitutes on the weakened United States boxing team, made their international debuts with victories.

Southerland, a lightweight who returned to boxing in 1985 after a four-year break, won a 5-0 decision over Ireland's Thomas Tobin.

Chavez, a welterweight wrapped up the afternoon competition by outpointing three-time Irish national champion William Walsh, 4-1.

For the first time in a competition where judges assign scores, an American coach complained about home-team bias for the Soviets.

Scott Reich, U.S. coach of the men's diving team, complained about diver Kent Ferguson's second-place finish in the springboard diving Friday.

"A lot of people would say Ferguson won that," he said. "No formal protest was filed."

Soviet Nikolai Drouzhnain won the gold medal in men's springboard with 646.14 points to Ferguson's 643.32.

Diver Michelle Mitchell of the U.S. and the American women's volleyball team won bronze medals, while the U.S. water polo squad defeated West Germany 7-5, clinching a medal.

Mitchell said she was not satisfied with her third-place performance in the women's platform diving. She finished behind Soviets Andzhela Staszulevich and Olga Billova.

"It's back to training again," Mitchell said, predicting she would defeat her Soviet rivals at the world championships in Madrid next month.

The American women's volleyball squad unexpectedly defeated Japan 16-14, 15-16, 15-11 to finish 2-3 in the tournament and win the bronze. On Tuesday, the Americans lost to Japan in four games.

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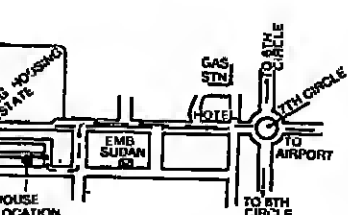
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Netherlands to continue tough austerity measures

THE HAGUE — Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers' renewed centre-right coalition is set to resume its major task, interrupted in May by general elections, of implementing tough economic measures, political commentators said Sunday.

Mr. Lubbers, a Christian Democrat, Saturday appointed a new team of ministers after two months of hard negotiations between his party and the right-wing Dutch Liberals.

Together the parties retained a 12-seat parliamentary majority in the May polls.

The Christian Democrats (CDA) will be in charge of nine cabinet posts while the Liberals (VVD), who lost support in the last election, see their previous total of six fall to five.

The two groups agreed last week on the details of a four-year programme which pledged a continuation of public spending cuts aimed at helping to restore the Dutch economy. The cuts were initiated by the centre-right coalition in 1982.

The reshuffled cabinet, which contains only four new faces, meets for the first time Monday.

After naming the cabinet, Mr. Lubbers said the ministers' first task would be to complete plans for next year's budget.

The coalition accord, approved by both parties last week, provides for spending cuts of 20 billion guilders (\$8 billion) over the next four years in a bid to reduce the state deficit.

Finance Minister Onno Ruding, co-ordinator with Mr. Lubbers of the austerity programme, is to retain his portfolio despite press speculation he would not reaccept a cabinet post.

A former top banker, the Christian Democratic Ruding is a well-respected figure in world financial circles.

Although analysts say the economy now appears to be back on the right track, Mr. Ruding is in favour of more stringent measures and only reaccepted his post after protracted wranglings over budget details with Mr. Lubbers, political sources said Saturday.

Zambia aims to build economy through hard currency auction

LUSAKA (R) — A weekly auction of hard currency, one of Zambia's tactics for putting the country's beleaguered copper-dominated economy back on its feet, is starting to make an impact, according to the business community.

The economy has been in deep trouble for several years because of the low world price of copper, virtually its only export, and living standards have plummeted as a result.

A programme of reforms has been implemented to end Zambia's reliance on the metal as its main foreign exchange earner. The idea is to boost the long-neglected agricultural and manufacturing sectors.

The strategy that has attracted the most attention is the weekly auction of hard currency. This started last October, under heavy pressure from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and forced a 70 per cent devaluation of the Zambian kwacha.

Nine million dollars are auctioned every week, and the business community says the system is beginning to work.

"The auction system is working well from our point of view. It means we have regular access to foreign (foreign exchange) and can plan ahead properly which we could never do before."

"It has eased our problems of obtaining raw materials and finished products. The only prerequisite is our ability to generate kwacha," said a Zambian businessman who did not want to be named.

Aid donors including the World Bank, the U.S. and Britain have put more than \$150 million in the kitty to help Zambia buy essential imports such as spare parts for use in the crucial copper mining industry and agricultural equipment.

Mr. Leslie Dean, acting director of the U.S. Agency for International Development in Zambia, told Reuters they were very pleased with the auction. "The money moves faster and there's more flexibility in the way it can be used."

The U.S. has put \$50 million into the auction, much of it without specifying products or their origin, he added.

The auction is one facet of the economic reform programme. Price subsidies, an enormous drain on government resources, have been cut or eliminated, agricultural prices to the producer raised and budget deficits curbed.

"Without these measures the auction would be meaningless and equally, without the auction other reforms would never get anywhere," said a Western diplomat who asked not to be named.

The auction has caused the greatest stir partly because it coincided with the sudden arrival in Lusaka shops of luxury goods that only expatriates and Zambia's elite could afford.

But business sources say these are bought with funds held abroad, rather than through the auction system. They say the goods, almost all from South Africa, come in legally because the government has recently liberalised the import licensing system.

Under pressure to show that the influx of luxuries was not a result of the auction, the Bank of Zambia last month began publishing details of the bids — the names of companies, how much foreign exchange they wanted and what they wanted to buy.

Licences are now granted almost automatically whether the hard currency has been obtained through the auction or from an external account, as is the case with most Asian and Greek shopkeepers, the sources say.

They add that corruption and favouritism in granting licences has been eliminated thanks to liberalisation and the new auction system.

However, there are still serious problems, including a chaotic tariff structure that often makes it cheaper to import goods than to produce them in Zambia, they say.

Soviet politburo calls for increased grain production

MOSCOW (AP) — Soviet industry overfulfilled plans for the first half of 1986 but grain production lagged, the official news agency TASS indicated Saturday.

TASS said the economic performance was discussed by the ruling politburo. It said the politburo noted "positive shifts" in the economy since the 27th party congress ended in March, with industry moving to higher productivity and lower production costs. No figures were given.

However, it said that several ministries had allowed the pace of production to slip in May and June and stressed that all would be expected to meet the plan for 1986 in full.

Plans for construction of housing, shops and cultural centres as well as production of unspecified goods were not met, TASS said.

Under Mr. Mikhail S. Gorbachev, the communist leadership has said it will punish enterprises who fail to meet planned production quotas and thus cause shortfalls in other sectors.

The TASS report did not say whether agricultural production had failed to meet plan targets.

But it strongly indicated that grain production is below planned levels, saying that the council of ministers and the Communist Party central committee have drawn up a special resolution on improving the grain sector.

Besides improving research, types of grain and methods of farming, TASS said it is necessary for the harvest to be gathered on time this year in eastern parts of the Russian republic and in the breadbasket republic of Kazakhstan.

It did not give any reasons for the special emphasis on these regions.

The Soviet Union has not issued grain harvest figures for several years.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) said in Washington on Friday that its latest prediction for this year's Soviet harvest is 180 million tonnes.

This is 10 million tonnes less than the estimated 1985 harvest, and five million tonnes down on the USDA forecast a month ago because hot, dry weather in the European part of the Soviet Union has continued to shrivel this year's harvest, the department said.

Investigations reveal rise in financial crimes in China

PEKING (R) — Most of 34,000 Chinese business concerns investigated in a nationwide probe this year were guilty of financial crimes, the China Daily said Saturday.

It quoted an official of the state's audit administration as saying it had uncovered serious violations worth 2.4 billion yuan (\$649 million) in the first five months of this year, nearly 10 per cent up on the same period last year.

It said most of the 34,000 concerns investigated "were found to have violated state financial regulations to some degree."

The violations included fraud, tax evasion and illegal overspending on capital construction over which the state had ordered tight curbs, it said.

The New China News Agency quoted the country's top judge, Mr. Zheng Tianxiang, as saying China's courts had handled nearly 50 per cent more economic crimes in the first five months of this year than in the same period last year.

Mr. Zheng, president of the Supreme People's Court, said laws against such crimes were becoming tougher, with prison terms being handed down instead of fines as in the past.

Businessmen foil Lloyds' bid to acquire Standard Chartered

LONDON (R) — Lloyds Bank's £1.3 billion (\$1.95 billion) bid to acquire Standard Chartered International Banking Group, failed "Saturday" following last-minute intervention by Asian and Australian businessmen.

A statement from Lloyds said its offer had been accepted by only 44.4 per cent of Standard's shareholders by the expiry deadline earlier Saturday.

Lloyds chief executive, Mr. Brian Pitman, said he believed the takeover bid, which would have made Lloyds Britain's biggest clearing bank, would have succeeded had it not been for a spate of last-minute buying of Standard shares by overseas businessmen.

In a flurry of buying on Thursday and Friday, Hong Kong shipping and property magnate Sir Yue-Kong Pao spent \$125 million (\$187.5 million) and built up a 14.95 per cent stake in Standard.

Malaysian investor, Mr. Tan Sri Koo, also entered the battle, acquiring a 5.3 per cent stake, while Australia's Bell group, headed by Perth businessman, Mr. Robert Holmes a Court, took a 6.4 per cent holding.

"All three committed their shares to Standard, ensuring the defeat of the Lloyds bid, banking sources said."

Although Lloyds, the fourth largest bank in Britain's national cheque-clearing system, has branches in 47 countries, it derives most of its profits from domestic operations.

Control of Standard's international network, which includes branches in 60 countries, would have given Lloyds assets of \$91 billion, firmly establishing it as an international banking force to be reckoned with, Mr. Pitman said.

But some analysts questioned whether Lloyds should become embroiled in South Africa, where Standard has outstanding loans totalling \$1.25 billion.

U.S. Congress to put final touches on historic tax reform plan this week

WASHINGTON (R) — Congress returns this week to put the final touches to a historic reform of the U.S. income tax system that will cut most Americans' taxes but make business and the wealthy pay more.

The tax reform plan will force changes in the financial decisions of every American and of U.S. firms here and abroad.

A select group of tax legislators will convene on Wednesday to begin the long process of working out hundreds of differences between the House of Representatives and Senate versions of the bill.

Their aim is to finish by the Sept. 1 Labour Day holiday, but congressional aides said the final vote may be taken in each chamber only after they return from a three-week recess that starts on Aug. 15.

Both plans would cut income tax rates to their lowest level since World War II, take six million working poor off the tax rolls and curb many popular tax loopholes used by the wealthy and businesses to reduce their tax burden.

There is little doubt a final tax bill will pass Congress and win President Reagan's approval, White House officials and congressional aides said.

Even before the House and Senate tax writers sit down to work out the compromise, informal agreements among the key players have nailed down important parts of the new tax plan.

President Reagan's general acceptance of higher taxes on business and more tax relief for the middle class has given House and Senate tax negotiators the broad outlines of a final tax reform bill, the congressional aides said.

House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Dan Rostenkowski, an Illinois Democrat, is expected to chair the House-Senate conference with Senate Finance Committee Chairman Bob Packwood, an Oregon Republican, leading the Senate group.

As many as 12 House members, and possibly all 20 Senate committee members, are to be named to the panel on Tuesday.

Although he will not be present, the third party to the talks will be President Reagan, whose veto power gives him the final say over any tax bill.

The congressional aides said they could see virtually no way Congress would not pass a final

tax bill acceptable to President Reagan.

"The thing can't die," one aide said. He said the plan had too much popular support to allow Congress to return for the autumn election campaigns without having passed a tax bill.

White House chief of staff, Mr. Donald Regan, told reporters last week he could not see Congress sending President Reagan a tax bill he could not sign into law.

The House version cuts the present 14 tax rates ranging from 11 to 50 per cent to four at 15, 25, 35, and 38 per cent. The Senate version proposes just two at 15 and 27 per cent.

The House vetoed to cut business tax loopholes worth \$140 billion over five years which would mean a tax cut of this size for individuals. The Senate would cut business tax loopholes worth \$100 billion, meaning a smaller individual tax cut.

Congressional aides said the final plan is shaping up to raise taxes on business by more than the Senate plan.

The most likely tax loophole casualties are tax deductions for business investments in new equipment and on tax-sheltered investments in oil, gas and timber.

Controversy has arisen among investors over whether the repeal of the preferential lower tax rate on long-term gains from capital investments should start now to prevent a massive sell-off of investments this year or be held off until Jan. 1, 1987, as the Senate had voted.

Mr. Packwood responded favourably to Mr. Rostenkowski's offer in a statement to editors of a Portland, Oregon, newspaper earlier this month.

Then Mr. Regan told reporters last week the president would make concessions to the House Democrats on higher business

OPEC quota list may herald more haggling

LONDON (R) — Proposed new oil output quotas for each of the 13 members of OPEC (the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) were published last week by the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES), but analysts immediately said they would lead to more argument among the divided oil producers.

The figures came shortly before London traders reported a further weakening of the crude oil market, with a deal for Britain's north sea Brent crude at under \$10 a barrel for the first time since April.

Oil prices have slumped by more than \$2 a barrel since the inconclusive adjournment of OPEC's conference in Brioni, Yugoslavia, last month.

The quota proposals are intended to restore OPEC unity and turn prices around, and the Nicosia-based newsletter, quoting what it called information from several sources, said the figures, prepared by Indonesian Oil Minister Subroto, allowed an increase for every member.

But London analysts said the 400,000 barrel per day (b/d) increase in Iraq's quota to 1.6 million and the small 125,000 b/d rise in the United Arab Emirates' (UAE's) quota to 1.075 million were likely to be the major flashpoints when OPEC ministers resumed their meeting in Geneva on July 28.

UAE Minister Mana Said Al Oteibi left Brioni insisting his rightful quota was at least 1.5 million b/d, and the proposed rise would appear impossible to accept, they said.

"A majority of the other OPEC members are also liable to resent the increase in the Saudi Arabia quota to 4.5 million b/d from 4.353 million," said Mr. Mehdi Vaziri, oil analyst with London brokers Kleinwort, Greaveson.

This was about 25 per cent of the new OPEC group limit, he added.

Mr. Peter Nicol of Smith New Court Agency said Nigeria might also resist its new quota, as it had claimed 1.45 million b/d since 1984 when it was given a temporary 150,000 b/d increase in its 1.3 million level.

MEES said it had obtained the following approximate breakdown (in b/d, old quotas in brackets):

Saudi Arabia 4.5 million (4.353 million), Iran 2.4 million (2.3 million), Venezuela 1.7 million (1.555 million), Iraq 1.6 million (1.2 million), Nigeria 1.45 million (1.3 million), Indonesia 1.3 million (1.189 million), Libya 1.1 million (990,000), United Arab Emirates 1.075 million (950,000), Kuwait 1.075 million (900,000), Algeria 650,000 (630,000), Qatar 300,000 (280,000), Ecuador 250,000 (183,000), Gabon 150,000 (137,000).

MEES said Dr. Subroto had asked each delegation in Brioni to suggest a fair division of OPEC's proposed 17.6 million b/d ceiling for 1986. Their answers were averaged and returned to the delegations for presenting to their governments.

The analysts said although the list contained something for everybody, it did not come close to meeting firm demands for major

increases from countries like the UAE or Iraq, which demands 13.1 per cent of the total — 2.3 million b/d if the ceiling is 17.6 million b/d.

Iran, granted only an extra 100,000 b/d rise to 2.4 million, is bound to oppose bitterly such an increase for its Gulf war enemy, they said. Iran has threatened to produce two barrels for every extra barrel granted to Iraq.

"It's not impossible these proposed quotas could form the basis of an agreement, but there is a lot of hard bargaining for it to happen," said Mr. Vaziri.

Despite a majority agreement on the ceiling, MEES said, OPEC production probably averaged more than 19.5 million b/d in June. Most previous estimates had put the figure close to 19 million.

The newsletter did not give a breakdown, but said all the indications were that the production momentum would carry on through July, with a stockpile in the order of two million b/d.

ITT-CGE joint venture could become major presence

NEW YORK (R) — Last week's merger of the telecommunications units of America's ITT and CGE of France will create the world's second-largest company in the field but French government fears over the future of CGE's loss-making competitor may delay approval of the deal.

ITT and state-owned Compagnie Generale d'Electricite (CGE) said they had agreed to join their telecommunications businesses to form the world's second-largest manufacturer in the field, behind American Telephone and Telegraph (ATT).

The joint venture — owned 30 per cent by ITT and 70 per cent by a European holding company — includes partners from Spain and Belgium and is expected to have annual sales of some \$9.6 billion.

The venture would include ITT's entire telecommunications

business around the world, ITT said.

The 70 per cent stake will be owned by a new holding company being set up by CGE, the Belgian banking company Societe Generale de Belgique and Spain's telephone company Telefonos.

But in Paris, monopoly fears and official concern over the future of CGE Generale de Construction Telephonique (CGCT), CGE's loss-making state-owned competitor, may delay approval of the deal.

A French government official, who asked not to be named, said the merger would not be approved until ministers decided what to do with CGCT, the country's second state-owned telecommunications business.

The French government will decide on whether to approve the joint venture in July, Industry Minister Alain Madelin said.

Horoscope not received

THE Daily Crossword by William Canine

ACROSS
1 Perseus work
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19 Merry
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21 Composer
22 Hero
23 Staff of life
24 Scotland
25 Tennyson
26 Doctor's enemy
27 Cupid
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30 "Foolish"
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33 Tuck, the
34 Chameleon
35 For one
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37 October
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39 Bernadette's
40 "Pretty"
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61 Chivalry

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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

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Peanuts

Mutt 'n' Jeff

I KNEW IT! NOW THEY WANT US TO LEARN TO EAT GRASS! THIS IS SURVIVAL!

WHO WANTS TO EAT GRASS? WHAT DO THEY THINK WE ARE, A BUNCH OF COWS?!

TRY IT...MAYBE YOU'LL LIKE IT...

IN THE LONG RUN, I THINK I'D PREFER A MARSHMALLOW SUNDAE!

SHOULD I?

Andy Capp

HOW DID IT GO?

I SCORED ANOTHER HAT-TRICK!

NO WONDER THEY KEEP SELECTING HIM AT HIS AGE, RUBIE. A LUCKY PLAYER IS BETTER THAN A GOOD ONE, EHP?

WELL, IT'S BETTER THAN INDIFFERENCE — MARGINALLY.

DEFINITELY

THE BETTER HALF By Harris

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BOY, YOU'RE UGLY IN THE MORNING!

"Just stick to 'snap-crackle-pop' if you don't mind!"

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ANSPY
ROPAN
TIBESC
HANEV

Now I'm really hungry

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

ANSWER: COCOA LATCH WATERY PUNDT

Answer: When diners are quickly thought out these days, they're often this — THAWED OUT

Thatcher rejects critics over sanctions against S. Africa

Australia warns of threat to Commonwealth

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (R) — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has defiantly defended her stand against mandatory sanctions against South Africa, citing strategic reasons for continued relations with Pretoria.

Mrs. Thatcher told a news conference Saturday she regretted a decision by four black African countries to boycott this month's Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh, but poured scorn on the move.

"It doesn't matter who pulls out of the Commonwealth Games. It will not help end apartheid in South Africa," she said.

The African states are retaliating for Mrs. Thatcher's refusal to impose mandatory sanctions, which most members of the 49-nation Commonwealth linking Britain and its former colonies favour.

Britain is the world's largest investor in South Africa and sanctions would be almost meaningless without its support.

But Mrs. Thatcher, in Vancouver for British Day at the Expo '86 World Fair, made clear she had no intention of agreeing to such measures.

Repeating arguments that they would increase unemployment, starvation and deprivation among blacks, Mrs. Thatcher said the

West would also expose itself to reliance on the Soviet Union for key strategic defence materials like platinum and chemical chrome.

"Some of these materials are extremely important for our defence industries ... people should think twice before they make statements about sanctions on South Africa which might jeopardise our capacity to have access to those fundamental raw materials," Mrs. Thatcher said.

Mrs. Thatcher, who appeared upset that her news conference was dominated by South Africa, was due to address the issue again in Montreal when she meets Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney.

As leader of a powerful Commonwealth state, Mr. Mulroney is emerging as a key figure in the sanctions debate and has made clear that further economic pressure may be needed both to end white minority rule over the country's voteless blacks and to keep the Commonwealth intact.

Mrs. Thatcher refused to say how she expected her one-hour meeting with Mr. Mulroney to go, but she dismissed his arguments.

Responding to suggestions by Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda that Mr. Mulroney was the one Commonwealth leader who could persuade her to change her mind, Mrs. Thatcher said there was no need for mediators.

She restated her argument that economic sanctions had never brought internal change in any country and said: "I would not accept that general economic sanctions would in any way bring about political change in South Africa."

Mrs. Thatcher said the Commonwealth should be strong enough to survive the South African crisis. "I don't think that the Commonwealth could be so easily wrecked. The Commonwealth is very much stronger than you think."

Meanwhile the Australian government warned its Commonwealth partners that the group's future was threatened by Britain's refusal to impose economic sanctions against South Africa.

Foreign Minister Bill Hayden said there were increasing indications that African nations,

the organisation's biggest single block, were preparing to abandon the Commonwealth.

"There is a fear that the Commonwealth could unravel rather badly if Britain fails to respond in some positive way to the expectations of black Africa," Mr. Hayden said.

Mr. Hayden was reacting in a television interview to Saturday's announcement by Kenya that it would become the fourth African country to pull out of the Commonwealth Games in Scotland from July 24 to Aug. 2. Tanzania has also pulled out since Mr. Hayden spoke.

Kenya, Ghana, Nigeria and Uganda all said the pullout was a protest against Britain's policies towards South Africa. Other African countries are expected to follow suit.

"Now if black Africa moves in that direction on bloc, it will deplete quite substantially the whole purpose, the meaning, the functioning of the Commonwealth because numerically they are the largest membership," Mr. Hayden said.

Mr. Hayden said the leaders of Canada and Australia had an important role to play in ensuring that the Commonwealth persisted.

Clashes continue in Ahmedabad for 5th day

AHMEDABAD, India (R) — Police opened fire on crowds in Ahmedabad as Hindu-Muslim riots erupted for the fifth successive day and shops and homes were set on fire in several districts.

Police said violence continued as the army stood by in case more than 10,000 police and para-military units — with orders to shoot arsonists on sight — failed to restore order.

They said a detachment fired four rounds to disperse crowds in a working-class area but it was not immediately known if there were any casualties. Crowds were also setting buildings ablaze in four other districts, they added.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) said the death toll had reached 40 in the riots that began on Wednesday when Muslims stoned a Hindu procession in this city of 2.5 million people.

At least four of the deaths occurred in other cities in Gujarat state when rioting spread there Saturday during a strike called by militant Hindus against Wednesday's attack.

Police opened fire in five areas overnight in Ahmedabad and arrested 150 people, state-run All-India Radio said.

State officials Saturday night put the army on alert, ordered security forces to shoot arsonists on sight and were Sunday flying in 1,500 para-military reinforcements to help restore order.

Gujarat Chief Minister Amarsingh Chaudhary told Reuters that about 1,500 paramilitary troops would reinforce nearly 10,000 police in the textile centre of 2.5 million people.

"But if the situation worsens, I will have to call in the army," Mr. Chaudhary warned. The Indian army is deployed as a last resort if civilian authorities fail to curb unrest.

An official spokesman said the orders to shoot arsonists and rioters on sight were issued to security forces in the city to contain the violence.

Reagan faces battles on SDI, S. Africa

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan faces major assaults by Congress on his "Star Wars" missile defence programme and his policy toward South Africa when legislators return to work on Monday after a two-week recess.

Republican leaders have predicted the Senate ultimately will follow the House of Representatives and approve Mr. Reagan's \$100 million aid package for Nicaragua's contra rebels.

But congressional sources told Reuters opponents of U.S. policy in Central America might try to delay passage through a filibuster, an obstructionist marathon debate.

Potentially more damaging for Mr. Reagan's policy are looming battles over "Star Wars," which certainly will result in less money than Mr. Reagan wanted, and South Africa, which may result in Senate approval of some kind of new sanctions.

As the full House and Senate move toward action on the 1987 defence bill, Moscow and Washington have shown signs of inching toward serious arms control negotiations.

Administration officials are pleading against cuts in Mr. Reagan's military programme, claiming such actions would undercut the U.S. position at the Geneva arms talks.

But arms control advocates still plan to push for deep reductions in "Star Wars," formally called the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI), which has become the centrepiece of Mr. Reagan's military policy.

"SDI will be a very significant battle," one senior Senate aide, who asked not to be identified, told Reuters.

"Most people in Congress agree SDI helped bring the Soviets back to the bargaining table and most agree now that it's the main stumbling block to an agreement," he added.

Democrats in particular are poised to challenge Mr. Reagan on this and other issues in an effort to boost their party's defence image and prove that Mr. Reagan's massive military buildup has been misdirected and possibly weakened national security.

Congress's two Armed Services

Committees, in their separate versions of the 1987 defence bill, last month slashed Mr. Reagan's \$5.3 billion SDI request. The House panel approved \$3.7 billion and the Senate, \$3.9 billion.

House Democratic leaders have laid plans to try to cut that figure even more — to \$2.75 billion, the same as 1986.

Forty-eight of the 100 Senators have endorsed a three per cent growth rate for SDI, about \$3.2 billion, compared to the 28 per cent increase in the Senate defence bill.

More important perhaps than the funding level, the Senate bill attempts to rewrite the rationale of Mr. Reagan's "Star Wars" programme from defending the entire U.S. population to more limited defence of missile sites and other military targets.

Legislators are also expected to fight over the unratified 1979 Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT-2).

Charging repeated Soviet violations, Mr. Reagan has said the treaty is no longer operative and the United States will probably exceed its limits on nuclear weapons later this year when the 131st cruise-missile equipped B52 bomber is deployed.

The House has passed a non-binding resolution directing Mr. Reagan to stay with the pact, and the Senate is expected to act on a comparable measure when the defence bill comes up.

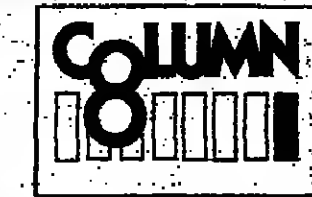
Congress may also be asked to go further and ban funds for weapons systems that exceed SALT-2 limits.

On South Africa, the House last month voted stiff new economic sanctions against the white-minority government and similar legislation is before the Senate.

Mr. Reagan so far has refused to consider sanctions beyond limited penalties he imposed under pressure last year.

But his administration has begun a review of its policy in an apparent attempt to head off final congressional action.

President Reagan Saturday appealed for public support for his SDI programme.



Biggest cockroaches caught in Texas

DALLAS (AP) — Despite traps baited with bananas, beer and petroleum jelly, it was fancy footwork that caught the Texas-size cockroach deemed the biggest in the state. Texans are famous in the United States for boasting they have the "biggest" of just about anything, and it seems this contest was no exception. The winner of Texas' largest cockroach contest Friday measured 48.78 millimetres (nearly 2 inches). The captors were three south western Bell Telephone Company employees who spotted their prize roach in the basement of their office building and chased him down, said Pat Camden. She and colleagues Janet Bowman, and Marcia McCrackin, won a \$1,000 grand prize. Unfortunately, they didn't bring him back alive. Ms. Camden said the bug's neck was broken accidentally. "It's a pretty good-size cockroach. I wouldn't want it in my bedroom," said contest sponsor Michael Bohdan, who runs a pest control company.

Boy George denies drug charge

LONDON (AP) — Pop star Boy George, who was arrested for heroin possession, said in an interview published Sunday there is no proof he had the drug and that he hopes to be cleared of the charge. Scotland Yard released the articulate young singer Saturday night after 12 hours in detention, and ordered him to appear before a London magistrate on July 29. In an interview with the News of the World Tabloid, Boy George was quoted as saying: "There's no proof that I was in possession when I was arrested this (Saturday) morning. I'm sure when I go to court everything will be all right and hopefully I'll get off." The singer, who was said to be undergoing treatment for heroin addiction, was quoted as saying he had never held any heroin parties and "I've made no admission about receiving heroin treatment." He was also quoted as saying he was furious at his friend and fellow pop star Marilyn, "who sold me down the river in more ways than one" and wanted to apologise to his family "because they really tried to help me."

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Nuns kidnapped in Southern Philippines

MANILA, Philippines (Agencies) — Armed men broke into a hill-top Roman Catholic convent in the Muslim city of Marawi and kidnapped 10 cloistered nuns living there, Church officials said Sunday.

The Rev. Michael Fitzgerald, a superior of the Carmelite Order in Manila, said a woman who witnessed the Friday night kidnapping saw the 10 Filipino nuns being led down the hill and taken away on two motor boats by the armed group.

No group has claimed responsibility for the abductions. A Muslim group last month

kidnapped French Priest Michael Gignord from Marawi, 816 kilometres south of Manila on Mindanao Island, and held him hostage for three weeks.

The abductors allowed the nuns to bring along a guitar, Fitzgerald told the Associated Press in a telephone interview from his Manila office.

Fitzgerald said the abducted nuns have been living for the past six years in the impoverished convent on a hill two miles from downtown Marawi that overlooks the city.

"They are contemplative sisters who live a cloistered existence and

spend their lives in prayers inside the convent," Fitzgerald said.

He said the nuns are not engaged in any active apostolate work in the area and do not go out of their convent except in cases of extreme necessity, such as illness.

The victims included seven full-fledged Carmelite nuns and three young novices Fitzgerald said.

Fitzgerald said the group chose to live in Marawi, a 95 per cent Muslim city, in hopes that their prayers would "help create a better relationship" between Muslims and Christians in the area.

Western diplomats, recalling charges by U.S.-backed Afghan guerrillas fighting the Communist government in Kabul that Pakistan recently delayed delivery of U.S. humanitarian aid, said Mr. Junejo would press Washington for a quick settlement to the Afghan issue.

The state-controlled media has emphasised in the run-up to Mr. Junejo's visit that Pakistan's interests should be held above everything else and charged some guerrilla groups with jeopardising the country's security.

Pakistan has been home to three million Afghan refugees since 1979 and its four-year-old U.N.-sponsored talks with Kabul for a peaceful settlement have yet to yield results.

The presence of the refugees and guerrilla bases in Pakistan has led to frequent cross-border shelling by Afghan troops and a spate of bomb blasts which killed scores of people in recent weeks. Islamabad blames Kabul for the blasts. Mr. Junejo, whose country is lined up for a six-year U.S. aid package worth more than \$4 billion starting next year, will also attempt to drive home that Pakistan needs Washington's assistance to carry out its nuclear energy programme.

The 12 condemned to death by firing squad in the former Portuguese colony have three days to appeal.

In the Angolan capital Luanda which he was visiting, Portugal's Secretary of State for Cooperation Eduardo Azevedo Soares called for clemency for the Guinea-Bissau plotters.

"I am sure an attitude of clemency be well received by Portugal and by the international community," he said.

Six of the original defendants were officially reported to have died in custody, focusing international attention on the coup plot case.

The authorities said one was killed while trying to escape and the other five died as a result of illness.

The human rights organisation Amnesty International sent a delegation to check on the prison conditions of the detainees last month. Mr. Vieira rejected allegations of ill-treatment.

Coinciding with the sentences, Mr. Vieira also announced a government reshuffle, the principal change being the transfer of Economy Minister Vasco Cabral to the justice minister's post which Mr. Correia had also previously held.

Those sentenced to death included Supreme Court Judge Viriato Rodrigues Pan, Military Police Commander Tagme Na Wae, and former Air Force Commander Lamine Cisse.

Junejo to start U.S. visit Tuesday

ISLAMABAD (R) — Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo arrives in the United States on Tuesday for a week-long official visit following a period of strain between Pakistan and Washington over the war in Afghanistan.

Western diplomats, recalling charges by U.S.-backed Afghan guerrillas fighting the Communist government in Kabul that Pakistan recently delayed delivery of U.S. humanitarian aid, said Mr. Junejo would press Washington for a quick settlement to the Afghan issue.

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Tamil politicians meet Jayewardene

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) — President Junius Jayewardene held an early meeting with Tamil politicians Sunday, underscoring the urgency with which both sides view the talks to end a bloody three-year-old civil war, a Tamil leader said.

Appapillai Amirthalingam, general secretary of the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) told the Associated Press that Mr. Jayewardene had agreed to the meeting Sunday "as both sides want to try and work out a solution."

The meeting to discuss Mr. Jayewardene's peace proposal had been scheduled for Monday.

Mr. Amirthalingam said the Tamil front and the government agreed earlier that details of the talks would not be revealed. He said only that Sunday's talks were "cordial, friendly and promising."

The talks will probably go on for "some more days," he said.

A six-member delegation of the Tamil United Liberation Front, the largest moderate Tamil political party, arrived here

Tamil politicians meet Jayewardene

Saturday to discuss proposals Mr. Jayewardene unveiled in Colombo on June 25 in a fresh bid to end the ethnic war.

Mr. Jayewardene's latest proposal is for the establishment of nine elected provincial councils which would be given partial autonomy, as an alternate to the demand by radical Tamils for a separate Tamil nation.

The Tamils, who make up 18 per cent of Sri Lanka's population of 16 million, claim the Sinhalese majority discriminates against them in matters of government employment, university education and the use of the Tamil language.

Several Tamil rebel bands have been fighting to establish a separate nation, which would be called "eelam" in the Tamil-dominated northern and eastern provinces. More than 3,000 people have died in rebel attacks and retaliation by the Sinhalese-dominated Sri Lankan Armed Forces.

In addition to Sunday's meeting, nine major political parties, including Mr. Jayewardene's ruling United National Party, will meet in a four-day conference beginning Tuesday to discuss the president's proposal.

Meanwhile thousands of Tamils participated in protest marches in the Jaffna peninsula, 360 kilometres north of Colombo, against negotiations that began Sunday, local residents said.

The residents, contacted by telephone, said some Tamil separatists armed with automatic weapons were seen among the marchers, who carried placards and shouted slogans such as "do not sell our homeland to the Sinhalese."

Some residents, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the Tamils also were protesting military demands that all vehicles leaving the troubled Jaffna peninsula pass inspection at an army checkpoint at Elephant Pass, 50 kilometres south of the town of Jaffna. Special passes are needed to leave the peninsula.

He also fired Asadnallah Sarwari, a former deputy premier and secret police chief under Nur Mohammad Taraki, Kabul's first president after the 1978 Marxist coup.

Mr. Sarwari belongs to the PDPA's Khalq (people) faction, which has long been at sharp ideological odds with Parcham members.

The Party has joined forces with a party described as a left-wing democratic group, the Revolutionary Society of Afghan Workers, TASS said Saturday.

The report appeared to be part of recent efforts by Afghanistan's Communist leadership to make it appear it is broadening the base of its support in the country.

Quoting a report by the Afghan News Agency Bakhtar, TASS said the two parties had issued a statement announcing their unification "as a result of mutual contacts maintained since 1977."

The year before the Communists seized power in Kabul in a violent coup.

TASS reports major Afghan victory against rebels

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Soviet-backed government troops gained almost complete control over the town of Herat.

A rebel spokesman said on June 25 that Soviet and Afghan forces were bombarding guerrilla positions around Herat and were using missiles and long-range artillery.

Soviet forces intervened in Afghanistan in December 1979, and Western military experts estimate their current strength at 115,000.

A United Nations mediator, Diego Cordovez, has attempted to negotiate a solution to the war since 1982, by securing a withdrawal of the Soviet forces and an end to rebel operations.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has said he wants a negotiated settlement of the conflict but has stipulated that Western support for the guerrillas, particularly from the United States, must cease.

The Jamiat Islami Party said last month that 200 Soviet and Afghan troops were killed or injured in the early stages of the battle around Herat.

The party also reported that some injured rebels had been taken to eastern Iran for treatment.

The leader of Afghanistan's ruling Communist Party, Najibullah, has made a fresh thinly-veiled attack on the policies of President Barak Karmal, criticising the work of a constitution-drafting committee headed by the former party chief.

They said the meeting suggested that Mr. Najibullah, a 39-year-old former secret police chief, was stepping up efforts to ease Mr. Karmal out but was being held back by fears of a backlash by the president's remaining supporters in the PDPA.

Both Mr. Karmal and Mr. Najibullah belong to the PDPA's Parcham (banner) faction and the diplomats, monitoring Afghanistan from Islamabad, said a dismissal of Mr. Karmal could

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Lions International rejects proposal to admit women

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — The Lions Club International voted down a proposal to allow women to join the 1.3 million-member club, but its new president predicted the measure will eventually pass. With just under 38,000 affiliates, the club claims to be the world's largest international service organisation.

Fifty-nine per cent of the estimated 6,600 to 7,000 delegates attending the 69th annual convention voted in favour of the proposal, short of the two-thirds majority needed to change the constitution. Exact vote totals were unavailable, club officials said. "I would like to stress that this was the first time that our delegates were asked to vote on this question ... which has been brought to our brother service organisations many times without success," said a statement issued by newly installed President Sten Akestam of Stockholm, Sweden.

Tsetse flies reproduce sexually

LONDON (R) — Scientists have found evidence that the parasite causing sleeping sickness can reproduce sexually, contradicting a conventional view that it multiplies by simply dividing in two. Nature magazine has said.

The science weekly said the discovery was important because the exchange of genetic material accompanying sex could account for the appearance of different parasite types during human epidemics of sleeping sickness. The discovery was made by British and Swiss scientists.

The conventional view has been that the parasites, Trypanosomes, multiply asexually, by splitting in two. The counter-evidence comes from an experiment in which Tsetse flies, in which trypanosomes live and travel between humans, were fed on two strains of parasite. "Analysis of the trypanosomes in the blood of mice that had been bitten by the flies showed evidence of genetic exchange — suggesting clandestine sex on the part of the parasites while in the flies," Nature said.

GOREN BRIDGE

ST CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
1986 Jordan Times Columnists, Inc.

DEAR MR. GOREN

Q.—In your columns I notice that you one both the Blackwood Convention and cue-bidding when you are investigating slam. How do you know which method to employ?—G.W., Syracuse, N.Y.

A.—Perhaps the best way to explain the difference between Blackwood and cue-bids is to reiterate whatasley Blackwood has always stated: "The Blackwood Convention should be used to decide when to stay out of a slam rather than when to bid one."

This sage advice from the master means that Blackwood should only be employed on those hands where slam is dependent solely on the number of aces partner holds. For instance, suppose that you open the bidding with one spade and partner makes a forcing raise of three spades. You hold: